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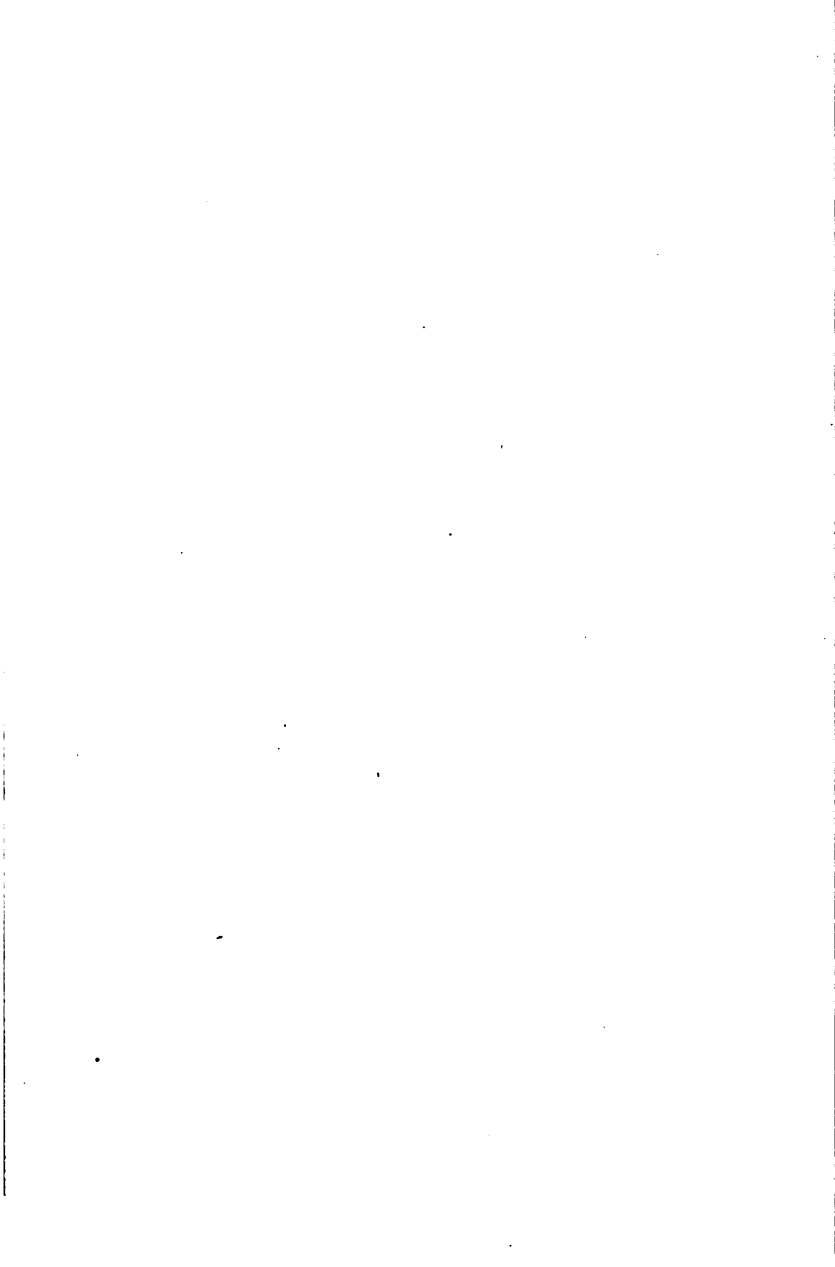
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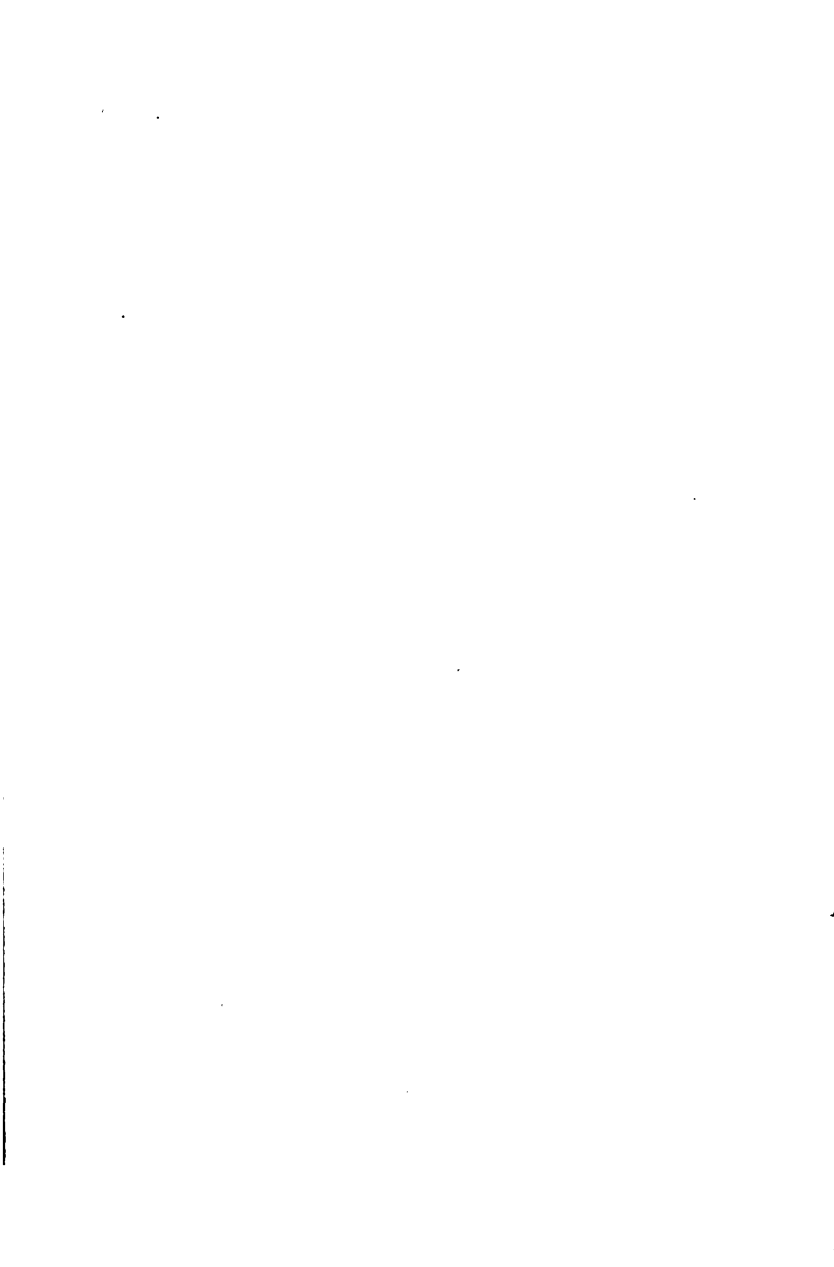


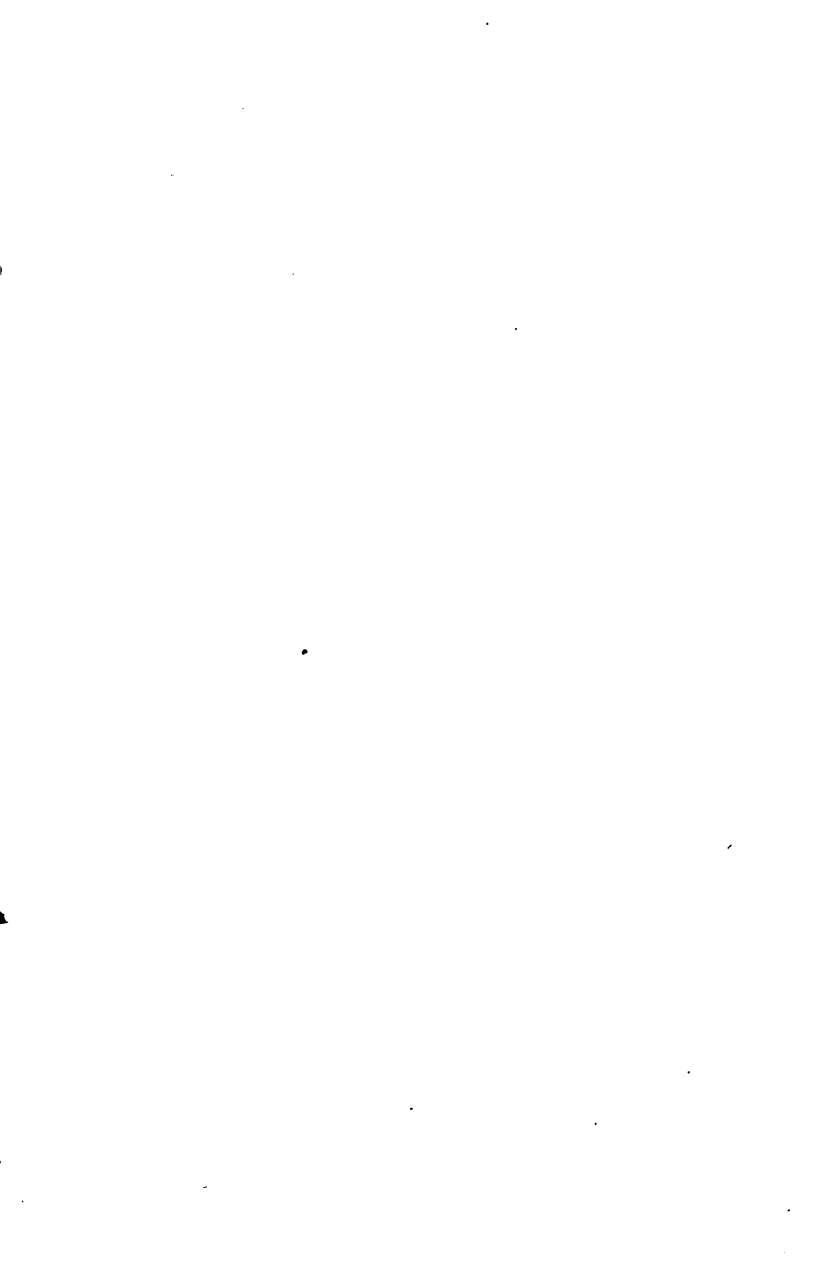
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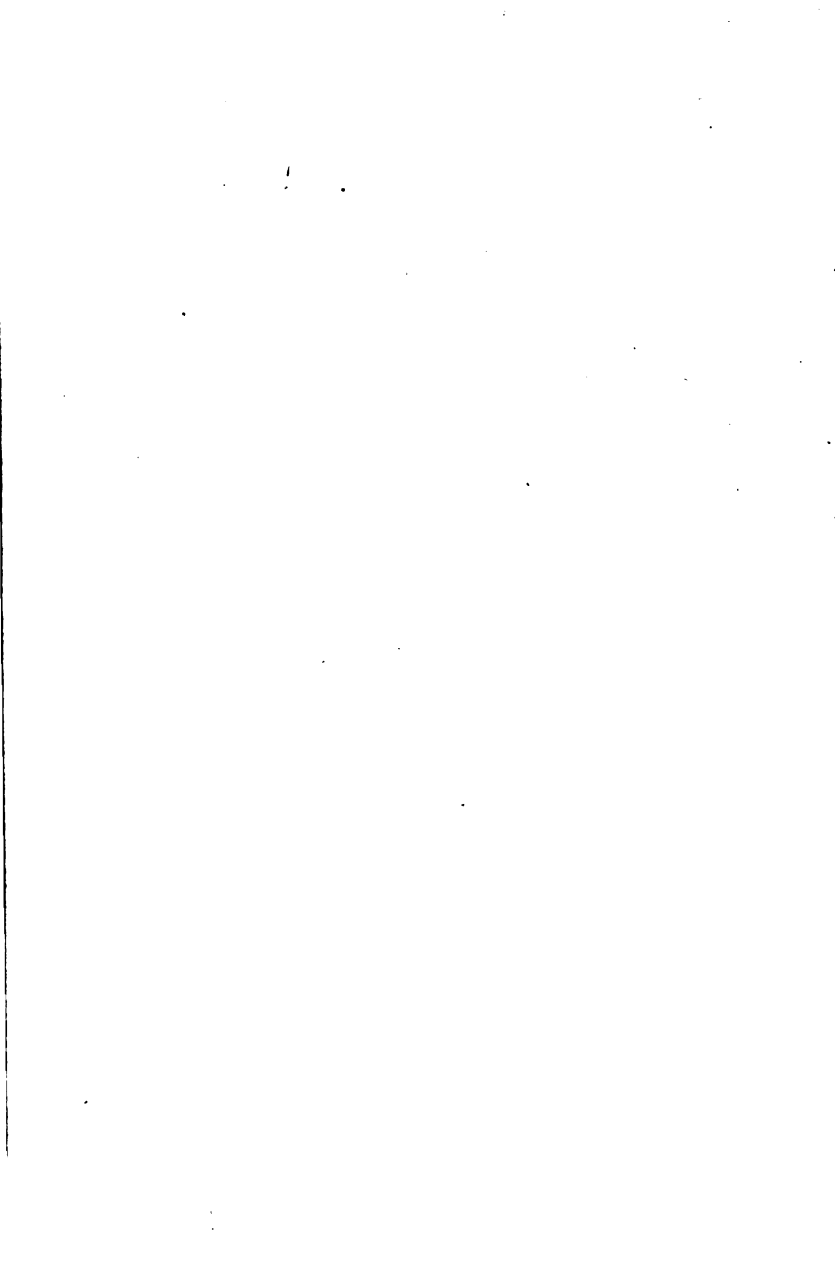
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The Jobsiad

A

GROTESCO-COMICO-HEROIC POEM

FROM THE GERMAN

OF

Dr. Carl Arnold Rortum

BY

CHARLES T. BROOKS

TRANSLATOR OF "FAUST," "TITAN," ETC., ETC.

PHILADELPHIA:

FREDERICK LEYPOLDT.

LONDON:—TRÜBNER & CO.

1863.

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PRINTED BY KING & BAIRD.

†

THE

Life, Opinions, Actions, and Fate

OF

Hieronimus Jobs,

THE

CANDIDATE,

A

MAN WHO WHILOM WON GREAT RENOWN,

AND DIED

AS

Night-Watch in Schildeburg Town.



*Throughout, beginning, end, and middle,
Adorned with wood-cuts, neat as a fiddle,
A gay historia, pithy and terse,
Writ in new-fashion doggerel verse.*

TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

CARL ARNOLD KORTÜM, the author of this unique poem—which may almost be said to form a genus by itself—was born at Mühlheim in 1745, and died as Physician, at Bochum, a small town in Westphalia, in 1824, in the eightieth year of his age. If we knew the particulars of his life, we might perhaps find in him an answer to Solomon's question in regard to laughter: "What doeth it?" namely, It prolongeth man's days.

The *Jobfiad* enjoys a great and general popularity in its native country,* and is, of course, a particular

* In Marggraff's *House-treasury of German humor* occurs the following :—

"The *Jobfiad* first appeared anonymously in 1784, and has now reached its Tenth Edition, [of several thousand copies each] which may well be regarded as a proof of the power of this jolly book to stand the test of time. A book may attain to several editions in swift succession, and then after all be suddenly forgotten or no more read; but when, after half a century, new editions of a book are still called

favorite of students, several of whom the translator has heard recite passages from it—"pompously squaring the circle described by the wrinkle round the mouth," as Jean Paul says of Schoppe—with exceeding richness of comic effect. Perhaps, indeed, to be perfectly

for and pass out of print again,—this is certainly a proof of its having a kernel of national and lasting vitality. The *Jobst* owes the popularity which it still continues to find as well to its drastic drollery in the invention and management of characters and situations, and their ethico-historical interest, as to the circumstance, that pedantry, with its innumerable absurdities, (which, indeed, forms the main object of this comic poem) has not even to this day died out in Germany, and will hardly ever die out, though it should from time to time assume different forms. The treatment betrays an original *vis comica* and a naive drollery such as are at this day seldom found; nay, the comic rises sometimes even to humor, insofar as we may regard it as one of the peculiarities of humor, that the Poet tosses about the world, which he sees at his feet, with sovereign caprice, with an ideal whimsicality, that never suffers itself to be degraded, by the follies on which it exercises its persiflage, to the level of hypochondriacal moodiness or a schoolmaster-like pedantry. . . . The *Jobst* owes a great part of its effect to the peculiar doggerel, since become typical, managed by him with the most riotous extravagance of whimsy, and yet at the same time with the sure hand of a master, which Kortüm, with happy hit, himself originally created for his epic."

enjoyed and appreciated, such a production should be heard as read by some one who has the skill and spirit to give it the proper tone and *twang*, or, perhaps, it might advantageously be accompanied with a scale of musical and *nasal* intonation.

By way of giving the reader all the help the case seems to admit, in the absence of the desiderata just referred to, the translator will add a few remarks in respect to rhyme and rhythm.

It will be observed, as one of the commonest requirements in making out the measure and securing the comic effect, that all sorts of liberties are taken, for instance, with accent. Thus, for the sake of rhyme, such words as *Baron*, *Turkey*, *Father*, and many others, have the stress transferred to the last syllable; and so, too, *frequently*, *contrary*, *necessary*, will sometimes have the emphasis thrown on the last syllable but one.—Equal licence is allowed in spelling. *Swabia* is spelt *Swaby* to rhyme with *baby*. *Nature* is spelt *Natur* to rhyme with *Senator*. The final *g* is repeatedly cut off from participles. Thus *spinning* becomes *spinnin'* for the sake of making it rhyme with *women*.—But the reader's Yankee sense will do justice to all these things as he goes along, and practice will beget smoothness, the rough quality being gradually worn off by the friction and heat of a rapid movement.

One word more in regard to the metre of this rampant doggerel, and the translator, with the author, commits his work to the "indulgent reader." The metre is certainly somewhat *particular metre*. The shortest and most satisfactory key to be given for the scanning is to say, boldly, that each line consists of four feet, each foot containing as many or few syllables as the case may require. We will give a specimen, trusting that the reader will then feel competent to career with great rapidity, precision and satisfaction over the roughnesses that most seriously

" Shake the racket axle of Art's rattling car,"

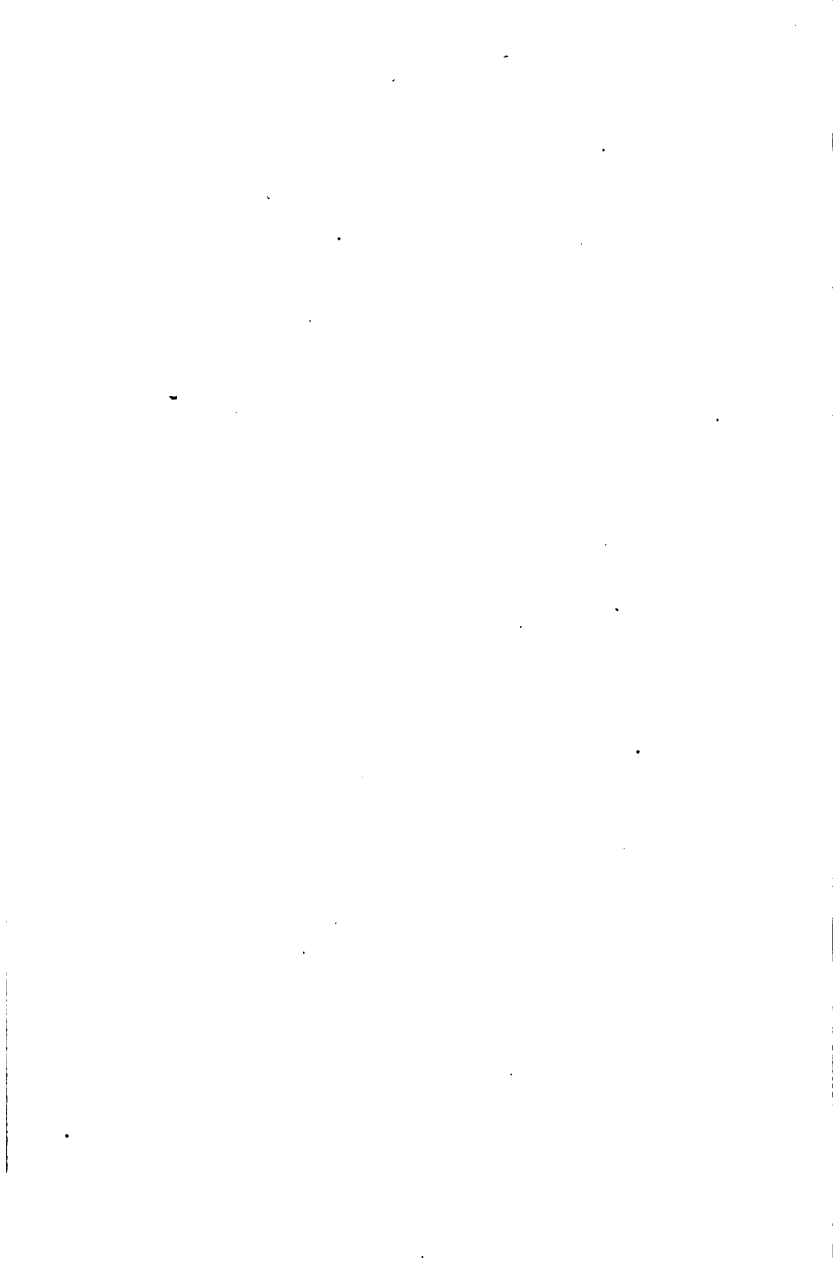
and the occasional extended tracts of verse, that might otherwise prove to some readers in this fast age a *dead man's journey*.

Take, then, the following, which we divide, thus :—
(the odd syllable over and above the four feet in the first couplet being a mere flourish, or *kick-up* of the last foot—the hind foot, so to speak, of the *quadruped*) :—

" If ōne | of his pā | tients chānced | to recōv | er,
| It was trūm | petēd | the coūn | try ō | ver,
And they sāid | behōld ! | the fā | mous mān |
Has wrougħt | a wōn | drous cūre | agāin. !

" But if he happened to lose his patients,
Or they died in the midst of his operations,
'Twas then : He died for want of breath,
There's not an herb growing 's a cure for death."

The *Jobiad* will already have had a certain introduction and commendation in this country by the four genial pictures of Hafenclever, now in Philadelphia, the first representing Jobs as he comes home to his astonished family from the University, the second as he appears before the Clerical Board of Examiners as a candidate for the ministry, the third, as a school-master, and the fourth, as night-watchman. These pictures were for a long time on exhibition at the Düsseldorf Gallery in New York, and the two chapters of this translation containing Jobs's letter to his parents for money, when he was at college, and the elder Jobs's answer, were printed in full in the catalogue of the exhibition, having originally appeared, (the first and only portion of the *Jobiad* ever printed till then in English) in the "Literary World," at that time under the tasteful, spirited and generous management of the brothers Duyckinck, whose kindness the translator here gratefully remembers.



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CHAPTER I.

*Preface, and the Author sets out to describe the story of
Hieronimus Jobs, deceased, and he gives his little
book the paternal benediction.*



RESPECTED READER! for thy edification,
And likewise for my own recreation,
A superfine history I plan,
Of Hieronimus Jobs, a remarkable man.

2 *The Life, Opinions, Actions and Fate*

2. Of whom I have many things to mention,
Deserving your particular attention,
And who, in all this life's queer mufs,
Was a curious Hieronimus.
3. To tell all about him were out of the question,
'Twould be too much for the reader's digestion,
And paper and space would be quite too small
To recite his adventures each and all.
4. I have respecting him many Data,
But confine myself to the prominent Fata,
And tell what he did from the day of his birth
That was most memorable on the earth.
5. Now, as I have received from St. Apollo
The laudable gift of rhyme, it will follow
That instead of telling my tale in prose
A very fine kind of verse I chose.
6. I may not always adopt that measure
In which a cultivated ear finds pleasure ;
The indulgent reader will consider meanwhile
That this is what they call the *popular style*.
7. From my ancestor, old Hans Sachs, I inherit
As a second nature, the rhyming merit,
Hence it is that I hold poesie so dear,
And relate all things in verses here.
8. There's nobody but that rehearſes
My cousin, the Wandſbeck meſſenger's verſes,
And yet, compared with my fabric, you'll find
That his are very far behind.

9. I have at the same time labored busily,
As the indulgent reader will see very easily,
To have the book, as was right and good,
Adorned with fine engravings in wood.
10. But as new engravings were scarce and costly,
I have borrowed from other sources mostly,
And yet it would puzzle any one to tell
That they *were* borrowed, they fit so well.
11. They're none of Chodowiecki's chefs-d'œuvre,
I almost flatter myself, however,
They will do as well, or well enough,
To help the book through a world so rough.
12. And, then, if the pictures are not the neatest,
The verses, too, are not the completest,
And so the two exactly agree
And make out a perfect harmony.
13. And now little Book, I'll no longer delay thee;
Go hence, to the sons of men display thee;
There's many a book no better than thou,
Is yearly sent to the Fair, I trow.
14. And yet allow me one moment to linger,
While I place on thy head my authorial finger,
And like a father benignantly,
Pronounce, dear Book, a blessing on thee!
15. May heaven protect thee a good long season
From critics, moths and lamp-paper treason,
And all other mischiefs that await
Printed books at the present date.

4 *The Life, Opinions, Actions and Fate*

16. Thou wilt have, both in and out of Swaby,
Thy native land, many readers, may be ;
That paper, printing and labor of brain,
May not, God help us ! have been in vain.
17. Go now and with my greetings hie thee
To all and each who read and buy thee,
And to every worshipful Reviewer,
My special compliments, be sure.
18. Tell them, (but softly, that they may not be offended,)
How they have often reviewed and recommended,
Many a book before now,
That was much worse written than thou.
-

NOTES.

Stanza 8. The *Wandbeck messenger* means that simple-hearted old German, Claudius, born in 1743, who so called himself and took for the motto of his papers, "*Asmus, omnia sua secum portans.*" (Asmus, carrying all his possessions with him.)

Stanza 10. And yet the *learned* reader will detect in the wood cut that heads this chapter, the traditionary picture of St. Luke, attended by the Ox, and writing his gospel.

Stanza 11. Chodowiecki was a famous German artist in this line, born at Dantzic in 1723.

CHAPTER II.

*Of the parents of our hero and how he was born, and
of a memorable dream which his mother had.*



BEFORE I go further, it is my intention,
Of our hero's two parents to make mention,
And a word or two must be also set forth
Concerning his true place of birth.

2. It was, then, a little town in Swaby,
Where the parents lived who had this baby,
And there his father, Hans Jobs by name,
Was a counsellor of considerable fame.
3. He was rich in cattle and that sort of blessing,
Beside our hero many other children possessing,
Of the male sex and female no less,
And lived, on the whole, in peace and happiness.
4. He had in wine some little dealings,
Was an upright man in his walk and feelings,
Just both at home and in council hall,
And a great economist withal.
5. A genuine Lutheran in his religious persuasion,
In philosophy neither Wolfian nor Cartesian,
Because in fact neither Wolf nor Kant
Nor any philosophy could he understand.
6. To study, however, he had somewhat attended,
And for a whole year the gymnasium frequented,
And consequently, so far, knew much more
Than any worshipful counsellor had done before.
7. When poor folks came, he loved to befriend them,
And for a pledge would gladly lend them,
And never charged more than ten per cent,
And was somewhat phlegmatic in temperament.
8. He was rather short and squat in stature,
Was endowed with a great appetite by nature,
The newspapers he loved to read,
And smoked many a pipe of narcotic weed.

9. And often when the gall ran over,
Severe attacks of gout he would suffer,
And yet he always found himself able
To take his place at the council table.
10. The mother was of respectable station,
The most eloquent woman in the Swabian nation,
Tall and virtuous and upright,
And meek as a lamb—at *first fight*.
11. Only, alas! as too often the case is
Not only here, but in other places,
She now and then, when it came in her way,
Would wear the breeches, as they say.
12. Now this occasioned no small vexation
At times, and led to altercation;
Yet on the whole did our two loves
Live like a pair of turtle doves.
13. They had now for several years in succession
Received of children a yearly addition,
And yet at the time of our story, 'twas plain
Mrs. Jobs was soon to come down again.
14. And now, when her nine months were ended,
And the time of delivery impended;
The above Mrs. Jobs immediately went
To make preparation for the important event.
15. Before, however, I go on with my history,
I must stop to mention a singular mystery,
A dream, in fact, that one night befel
This Mrs. Jobs of whom I tell.

16. We learn by experience oft repeated,
That dreams are not to be lightly treated ;
Of that, dear reader, I presently
A notable proof will furnish thee.
17. One night, as Mrs. Jobs lay sleeping,
This wonderful dream into her head came creeping,
That, instead of a little child, was born
Of her a great and mighty horn.
18. This horn so mightily crashed and sounded,
That Mrs. Jobs woke up astounded,
And often, after she awoke,
About that horn she thought and spoke.
19. A lady, to whom she applied for explanation,
Gave her at the time this consolation,
That thus the interpretation ran :
Her child would certainly be a great man.
20. And that his voice his mouth would nourish,
And in the pulpit would greatly flourish,
For that was clearly and finely shown
By the monstrous horn with its mighty tone.
21. But we will not here be anticipating
The sequel for which the reader is waiting,
And so I now return to the text
And proceed to tell what happened next.
22. The mother laid all things straight in her chamber,
And on the thirtieth day of September,
Just at the right time she had the joy
Of giving birth to a little boy.

23. Was ever a father's happiness greater?
And heavens! how proudly felt the Senator!
And how did he leap, when, blooming there,
He saw before him a son and heir!
-

NOTES.

Stanza 2. *Swaby*, poetic licence for Swabia, just as we have *Virginny* for Virginia, and for Arabia, *Araby* (the Bleft.)

Stanza 7. Some points in this description of old Jobs will remind the reader of "Old Grimes."

CHAPTER III.

How Mrs. Jobs, in child-bed, received a visit from her female friends, and what Ma'am Gossip Schnepplerle prophesied of the child.

AND so Mrs. Jobs, as we've just been telling,
With her dear little Jobsey was keeping her dwelling;
Close by her side all swaddled he lay,
And thought of nothing and slept away.

2. 'Twere impossible to describe the jubilation
That filled all the Jobbian habitation;
Neighbors and kinsmen came and went,
And those that couldn't themselves go, sent.

3. The chamber rang with a constant alarum,
As when the bees in the May month swarm,
And all the day long it was buzz, buzz, buzz,
Round the dear little Hieronimus.

4. Exactly three days had now expired,
Since Mrs. Jobs to her bed retired,
When a mighty swarm of women made free
To invite themselves to afternoon tea.



5. And of all these madams, to my thinking,
Who came to Mrs. Jobs's tea-drinking,
Though there was none whose gifts were small,
Ma'am Schnepferle's gift excelled them all.
6. Little Jobsey's father was her cousin ;
The company talked of the weather, and a dozen
Other matters of the same kind,
And the conversation was quite unconfin'd.
7. Next after madam's health they inquired,
And to know how the baby was they desired,
Whether he seemed to like his pap,
And was a quiet little chap ?
8. Then they began, in rotation, to raise him
High in the air and *best* him and praise him,
And none could find fit words to express
Their sense of his uncommon prettiness.

12 *The Life, Opinions, Actions and Fate*

9. "My honored cousin," began Ma'am Schnepplerle,
(She spoke through her nose, but rather dapperly,)
 A learned man the child will be,
 That by his face I can plainly see.
10. "I have read a book and admired it greatly,
 Which I took from the council library lately,
 About the art of Physiognomy,
 And everything, the how and why.
11. "And there was a dreadful lot of faces,
 Pious rogues with terrible grimaces,
 Learn'd dunces, profiles ugly and fair,
 And heads of animals, too were there.
12. "If I rightly remember what I read there,
 I think (almost in so many words) it said there,
 That there is genius in such a phiz,
 As this little wry one of Jobsey's is.
13. "Nor should I fear to pledge his mother
 That the child will take to books one day or other;
 And, if he only lives long enough, he
 Will be a parson, undoubtedly.
14. "His mighty voice that he lifts like a trumpet
 Shows that he one day will mount the pulpit."
 (N. B.—Just here little Jobsey cried out
 As if he knew what they were talking about.)
15. Ma'am said much more before she had completed,
 That cannot in this place be repeated;
 However she ended at last, and then
 All the women fell in with a loud Amen.

16. And now when the visit was finally ended,
Each one her hand to Mrs. Jobs extended,
And thanked her for the honour she had done,
Then all returned to whence they'd come.
17. Poor Mrs. Jobs's head-aches were shocking,
But she was edified by Ma'am Schnepplerle's talking;
Especially as the world said, she
Was acquainted with astrology.
-

NOTES.

Stanza 3. *Swarm* in the second line must be pronounced with the Irish *r*: *swarrm*.

Stanza 8. To *heft*, was a vulgarism in New England, in the translator's boyhood, meaning to test the heaviness (*heft*) of a thing by lifting it.

Stanza 10. The book would appear to have been Lavater.

Stanza 14. *Trumpet* and *pulpit* make a fine *assonanza*.

Stanza 16. The reader will please remember the rule for scanning given in the preface.

CHAPTER IV.

*How the child was baptized, and how he was named
Hieronimus.*

WHEN a few days more had also transpired,
 'Twas baptism plainly the infant desired,
 For his cries were piteous to hear,
 And caused his mother pain severe.

2. Vainly they plied both breast and bottle,
 Nor would sugar dollies stop his throttle,
 But he kept up one incessant shriek
 'Till one could no longer hear himself speak.
3. Therefore in Senator Jobs's habitation,
 Provision was made for the baptismal collation,
 And dishes of all sorts were made or sent
 That might adorn the sacrament.
4. Twists and rings and other such matters,
 Were baked for the supper and piled on platters,
 Nor was there in wine, tobacco and beer,
 Certainly any deficiency here.
5. Friends and relations, aunts, uncles and cousins,
 Nurses, acquaintances, neighbors by dozens,
 When the hour arrived, came pouring in,
 All smiling and dressed as neat as a pin.

6. That sexton and parson, with formulary,
Were also there, you need not query,
And the whole senatorial body, too,
Had arrived at the house in season due.
7. Many other guests also, by invitation,
Came to this great and high celebration,
And to Jobs's credit confessed it must be,
That all passed off with propriety.
8. However there rose a disputation
About the infant's appellation;
Whether Heinz it should be, or Peter or Hans,
Or Jost or Jacob or Hermann or Franz.
9. But none of these names, though full of attraction
Seemed to give universal satisfaction,
And matters might almost have passed
From words to something worse at last,
10. Had not the parson, with wise discerning,
Given this advice, like a man of learning,
To examine the calendar, and see,
Affixed to the birthday what name might be.
11. The calendar, without further question,
Was straightway opened by the sexton,
And there they found without any fuss,
The name of St. Hieronimus.
12. Such a wise counsel to all the connection,
To parents and godfathers gave great satisfaction,
And so the vote was unanimous,
That the child should be called Hieronimus.

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13. And now when this weighty point was decided,
The parson, in manner and form provided,
Pronounced and performed the Actus, and thus
The child was baptized Hieronimus.
14. All things thereafter went calm and cosy,
Parson and sexton waxed right rosy,
And they did nothing else for almost half
The night but eat, drink, smoke and laugh.

CHAPTER V.

How the little child Hieronimus occupied himself.

WHILE yet in his swaddling clothes, Hieronimuffly
Paffed his time in a manner fufficiently fuffy,
Slept, ate, fucked or drank, one after another,
Or liftened the lullaby fung by his mother.

2. His fleeping and eating, and fucking and drinking,
Were much like other children's, to my thinking;
Much time in rocking him alfo was fpent,
And yet for all that he was never content;
3. But often would fcream whole days together,
And raife in the cradle a bitter pother,
As if fome terrible grief had affailed him,
Though there was nothing on earth that ailed him.
4. Some wife people have undertaken,
With an air that implied they could not be miftaken,
To affert that there muft in thefe cafes be
(God fave the mark!) fome forcery.
5. And fo the nurfe and eke the phyfician
Are called to pronounce on the child's condition,
And many a dofe of rhubarb and rum
Is given, and fometimes laudanum.

6. He thus became almost a burden to his mother,
But he throve in this way as well as in any other,
And every day, as it came along,
Found him more fat and stout and strong.
7. Father and mother took therefore great pleasure
In their darling child—their precious treasure,
And many was the hearty buff
They gave little Hieronimus.
8. I have no further information
Of the first few years of Job's earthly probation;
And therefore it is best, I suppose,
To bring this chapter here to a close.

NOTE.

Stanza 5. "What are you doing, mad mother! miserable nurse! when you pour this vile compound into the unstained snow of an infant's bosom! Know you not that paregoric is opium and rum? A composition that Samson could not have swallowed much of, unscathed." *Sermon on Intemperance.*

CHAPTER VI.

*Actions and opinions of Hieronimus in his boyish years,
and how he went to school.*

OF the other early years of our hero,
I likewise can give no information that is thorough,
Inasmuch as the course his life has run,
Has been hitherto a very narrow one.

2. Consequently an account of his actions,
Would possess no remarkable attractions;
Suffice it to say, that while yet a boy,
Eating and drinking were his chief employ.
3. He had however his gifts as well as others,
Preferred as playmates the girls to their brothers,
Would often quarrel and tease in play,
And was noted for many a mischievous way.
4. Lying and swearing he early took to,
And learned them well without any book too,
Whereby the neighbours' children round
Much edification in his company found.
5. He had a sweet tooth, loved candy to distraction,
Likewise in nuts and raisins took great satisfaction,
And all the money he got and spent,
For something dainty and liquorish went.

6. With brothers and sisters he always was quarrelling,
But his father never would give him a feruling,
And as to his mother, poor, dear, good soul
She never noticed such things at all.
7. All children of his age he could master,
There was none of them could leap or run faster,
Not one of them was so strong as he,
And whoever provoked him had better let him be.
8. And being a boy of great endowments,
He was charged with many household employments,
To foddering the cattle would sometimes see,
And superintend the economy.
9. Sometimes he rode the horses to water,



Or a jug of beer from the tavern brought, or
A fresh laid egg from the hennery,
Or a goose's or duck's, as the case might be.

10. On the whole, was a fair, good-for-nothing fellow,
Had a pair of lungs that could terribly bellow,
And would act on a bench the preacher's part;
All this went right to his parents' heart.
11. For they watched with a secret gratification
Hieronimus's talent in its manifestation,
And often in their heads it would run :
" There is the parson, sure as a gun."
12. Especially the mother, who remembered
The Schnepferle's words, when she was chambered,
And also the dream she formerly had,
Could hardly contain herself, she was so glad.
13. For all seemed to hang together so neatly,
And express the matter so completely;
And when she weighed all this, she could see
The future parson as plain as could be.
14. Accordingly to school they sent him,
To fit him for the station they meant him,
Which pleased Hieronimus little enough,
For he liked his play much better than such stuff.
15. He hated his lessons and never learned them,
He threw his books on the floor or burned them,
And the a, b, abs and the o, b, obs
They gave a head-ache to master Jobs.
16. 'Tis true, the preceptor did earnestly endeavour
To recommend learning to his favour,
And he and the rod in company,
Worked away at his genius faithfully.

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17. This man had remarkable qualifications
For giving self-willed boys educations,
And oftentimes on shoulder and back
His cane came down with a mighty thwack.
18. Extraordinary efforts in this case were needed,
But at length the Herculean labor succeeded,
And Hieronimus his letters told,
By the time he was about ten years old.
19. How old he may have been exactly,
When he learned to read the German correctly,
I am not at present prepared to state
In a manner very accurate.
20. And when more years he began to reckon,
From the German school the boy was taken,
And to the Latin school was sent
To learn his Latin ; but how it went
21. With Hieronimus in his Latin,
And how they succeeded in getting *that* in,
All this I promise faithfully,
The reader shall in the next chapter see.

CHAPTER VII.

*How the boy Hieronimus went to the Latin school, and
how he did not learn much there.*



HIERONIMUS, pursuing the parental intention,
Began now at Mensa his First Declension,
And every important article taught
In the Latin grammar he likewise got.

2. Many vocables he also committed,
But the poor Hieronimus was much to be pitied,
For that curséd lousy Latin, he said,
Would nowise get into his head.
3. In Conjugations and Syntaxis,
And generally in the Latin Praxis,
It seemed as if the old Harry was loose,
And his body suffered no little abuse.
4. For the Rector being a Hypochondriacus
Showed no partiality to Hieronimus,
But cudgelled him often as if he were mad,
And many a skinfull he gave the poor lad.
5. By a system of teaching so painfully hurried,
The youth almost to death was worried,
And often wished (in terms uncivil)
His grim old Rector would go to the d——l.
6. 'Tis true, full many a trick he played him,
And richly for all the cudgellings paid him,
In fact the man had a deal of fufs
With the rogue of a Hieronimus.
7. For he cut up incognito all sorts of capers
With the old gentleman's perukes and papers,
And sent full many a poisoned dart
Right into the worthy man's heart.
8. He gave his schoolmates, too, much trouble,
And brought them into many a hobble,
For he hated them with hatred profound,
And often knocked them flat on the ground.

9. No book of theirs, nor any garment
Was safe from the tricks of this torment,
And many of his tricks were of that kind,
That leave a very bad odour behind.
10. Sometimes he would act the eavesdropper,
And catching a schoolmate at anything improper,
Straightway he to the Rector reported the boy,
And witnessed the flogging with heartfelt joy.
11. Lazy in brain and fore in body,
At length he went home quite sick of study,
And there for the most part his time passed by
In unprofitable inactivity.
12. Of his Greek I have nothing to say at present,
He found it exceedingly unpleasant,
And the barbarous Tupto, Tupteis,
Would turn Hieronimus' heart to ice.
13. Far be it from me, thought he, to dabble
In such a jaw-cracking, Irish gabble,
And as regards the Hebrew speech,
He called it poison and kept out of its reach.
14. He made therefore no progress worth repeating,
Save in lying and swearing and drinking and eating,
And in the invention of an original cuss,
Nobody could match Hieronimus.

NOTE.

Stanza 14. *Cuss* is Yankee for curse. (*Note for foreign readers.*)

CHAPTER VIII.

How Hieronimus's parents, with the Rector and other friends, took counsel what they should make out of the boy.

Now when the boy in this state of distraction,
Had passed some eighteen years and a fraction,
And in fact was already half a head higher
Than old Hans Jobs his fire,

2. His parents began to be puzzled with cogitation
About his future occupation,
For it was high time something should be done
With this most extraordinary son.
3. First of all they put the Rector the question,
Whether he could not make any suggestion
As to his future destiny,
And what he was best fitted to be.
4. Now this man would not dissemble in the matter,
Nor with idle hopes the parents flatter,
So he came out roundly and told the truth :
" You can't make anything good of the youth.

5. "Study is clearly not his vocation ;
It were wiser to try some occupation ;
A Counsellor might of such a one be made ;
If not, it were well to put him to a trade.
6. "I have many a time in recitation
Discovered with great commiseration,
That there's nothing in him that possibly could
Do a respected public the least mite of good."
7. This speech, as may well be apprehended,
The Jobbian couple grievously offended ;
They heaped upon it all manner of abuse
And called the Rector a stupid goose.
8. In a council of friends the question was stated,
And pro et contra rationally debated ;
Old Jobs looked as grave, and so did all,
As if that house were the council hall.
9. After they had been two-and-a-half hours in session
They compromised matters by this proposition :
*That the subject be postponed to a new term
For nearer examination ; meanwhile we adjourn.*

CHAPTER IX.

*How the gipfy Urgalindina was also consulted about
Hieronimus, who understood the chiromantic art.*

AND now all the friends who the meeting attended,
At Counsellor Jobs's, homeward had wended,
When, as good luck would have it, one day,
There came an old gipfy along that way.

2. From a very old family she was descended,
Urgalindina was her name, she pretended,
And Egypt, she said, was the country from which
She came, and her mother was burned as a witch.
3. Men's actions and fortunes this woman predicted,
When she the lines on their hands had inspected,
And future things as clearly could trace
As if they already had taken place.
4. She had greatly delighted many a maiden
By prophesying her approaching weddin',
And indicated the bridegroom's name
As if she had long been acquainted with the same.
5. To many an heir beginning to be discontented,
The speedy death of a rich uncle she hinted,
And oh, how glad would such a one be,
When his uncle died unexpectedly!

6. To many almost despairing spouses,
Whose wives, alas ! were the plagues of their houses,
She came with welcome words of cheer
And whispered a speedy deliverance near.
7. To many a dunce disagreeably smelling
Of musk and pomatum, she was often seen telling
How, in spite of all his awkwardness,
He would find some fair one his heart to bless.
8. The words she chose were always so fitting
That she hardly ever failed of hitting ;
Yet a cunning ambiguity
Helped her out of many a perplexity.
9. She had for each some special good story :
To soldiers she prophesied powder and glory,
To destitute epicures heaps of gold,
The kingdom of heaven to matrons old.
10. With other arts she was also acquainted,
But not all her singular merits prevented
Her falling occasionally into sin,
For she stole, incidentally, now and then.
11. In short her reputation rivaled in splendor,
The fame of the celebrated witch of Endor,
At least in lying and chiromancy
No gipsy woman was keener than she.
12. Now when Mrs. Jobs heard of her coming,
She immediately went to find the woman,
And at her door, just out of her reach,
Addressed to her the following speech :

13. "My dear Mrs. Urgalindina, right glad am
I to see you on the present occasion, Madam,
I've a son I beg that you would see,
And pronounce on his future destiny.
14. "I trust you will yield to our persuasion,
And without any equivocation or evasion
Very candidly state to us,
What is to be done with Hieronimus."
15. "Madam!" she answered, "I will do as directed,
So soon as I his hands have inspected;
I will then, as an honest woman, declare
His future fortune, to a hair."
16. They immediately sent for Hieronimus,
And Ma'am Urgalindina in a somewhat ominous
Tone, requested his right hand to see
Which somewhat smutty happened to be.
17. The gipsy woman, with searching vision,
Examined all points with great precision,
Measured the lines and the surfaces too,
As chiromantists are wont to do.
18. For a moment or two she nothing uttered,
At last like a Delphian Sibyl she muttered
Something between her teeth a while,
And prophesied in the following style:
19. "I've founded, my dear Hieronimus, I've founded,
By the art in which I am perfectly grounded,
Thy whole future destiny, my son!
By that throat of thine and its mighty tone—

20. "Shall many a brazen villain be shaken,
Many a slumbering sinner shalt thou awaken,
So that the city far and wide,
Shall by thy gifts be edified.
21. "Both good and evil shall feel thy protection,
Thou shalt guard from body's and soul's destruction
Both young and old, and great and small,
A faithful and vigilant keeper to all.
22. "Thy wife teachings this city's population
Shall one day hear with edification,
And when thy mouth is opened to cry
Aloud, no one shall make reply.
23. "I may not for the present, venture
Any farther than this on thy future to enter,
But what I have said must now suffice,
Go then, my son, now go and be wise."
24. Here Urgalindina her prophecy ended,
Both father and mother, who had closely attended,
Were entirely satisfied and filled with joy,
To hear such prediction concerning their boy.
25. For in their minds already our hero
Was clearly a parson in futuro,
With this the prophecy seemed to agree,
How could it be clearer possibly?
26. Off did Urgalindina hobble,
When she had got a sumptuous fee for her trouble:
They say she had scarcely got out of sight,
When she laughed at parents and son outright.

27. And now, to cover the Rector with confusion,
Both Mr. and Mrs. Jobs came to the conclusion,
That the beloved Hieronimus
Should straightway become a Theologus.
28. In chapter Tenth, we shall therefore accompany
Hieronimus to the Academy ;
But first we must stop awhile to tell
What took place at the last farewell.
-

NOTE.

Stanza 2. The reader must be careful not to pronounce *witch* and *which* as if they were the same word, as school-boys sometimes do.

CHAPTER X.

*How Hieronimus took leave of his parents and brothers
and sisters, and started for the university.*

WHEN Hieronimus's departure was decided,
Straightway he was superfluously provided
With clothes, books, money and everything
That is necessary to studying.

2. The family found some consolation
In the labour and care of the preparation,
But when the parting hour drew near
On both sides was many a bitter tear.
3. The grave old Senator Jobs's bawling,
Was just a regular caterwauling,
And sobbing he gave a farewell kifs
To his dear son Hieronimus.
4. And he added also a fatherly blessing,
This counsel to the youth addressing ;
"Farewell and attend to thy studies, my son,
That we may have joy, when all is done !

5. "If anything should ever ail thee
(There may be times when money will fail thee,)
Always write without fear to me,
Whatever is wanting I'll send to thee!"
6. Hieronimus was, as may well be suspected,
By his father's words extremely affected,
And promised always to let him know
Whenever his purse should be getting low.
7. Still worse was it with the poor mother
Who did not undertake her grief to smother;
Pierced through by sorrow's bitter dart,
She pressed her dear son long to her heart.
8. At length she stepped aside a second,
And to Hieronimus beckoned,
And slipped into the hand of her sonny
A little bag containing some money.
9. This very pious motherly blessing
Was to Hieronimus deeply distressing,
And not without many a heavy sob,
He thrust the little bag in his fob.
10. Next came his brothers and sisters in rotation,
Whom he, amidst piteous lamentation,
Each by the hand successively shook,
And now his departure Hieronimus took.
11. The weeping and wailing of the parents lasted
For several days; the old man fasted
To such an extent as utterly to refuse
Wine, beer, tobacco and the daily news.

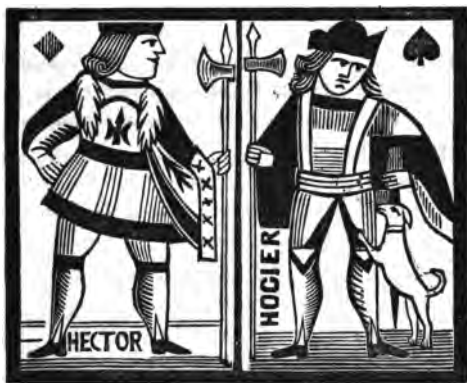
12. The greatest of all was the mother's trouble,
She was almost inconsolable,
But with the brothers and sisters, I hear,
There was very much less danger to fear.
-

N. B.—The wood-cut that heads the next Chapter, admirably fulfils the Author's promise in Chapter I, 10. The *double knave* of cards expresses in emblem Hogier's gambling and double-dealing. One of them being knave of *hearts* alludes to the *affectionate* manner by which Hieronimus was taken in, while the hanging of the head (Kopfhängerei) betrays the hypocrite; the other being the knave of diamonds, intimates how he took all the profits as well as honors. (Stanza 29.)

The Christian, or rather Pagan name *Hector* in the first card denotes the gay and brazen rogue, while that of *Hogier* in the second seems to refer to the *hoax*, the humbug, he played off on Hieronimus.

CHAPTER XI.

*How Hieronimus came on horseback to the post-station,
and how he found at the inn a distinguished gentle-
man, named Herr Von Hogier, who gave him whole-
some lessons, and was a knave.*



AND now Hieronimus has finally departed ;
The old house servant who was very kind-hearted,
Rode to the next village by his side,
Where he was to get into the postwagon to ride.

2. Altho' now the departure had affected him sadly,
Nevertheless he looked forward gladly
To the beloved university,
Where time passes off so pleasantly.
3. Scarcely had he began to find him-
self out on the highway and Schildburg behind him,
When he parents and brothers and sisters forgot,
And was highly delighted at the thought,
4. That now henceforth, as a free student,
He need be no longer so prim and prudent,
And as to the grim old Rector and his rod,
He was well rid of them, thank God!
5. It filled him with special exultation,
He was richer than a king in his own estimation,
When the money into his mind did come
Which he had taken with him from home.
6. He thought and he *felt* with the greatest pleasure,
Of the little bag, the precious treasure,
From his highly afflicted mother received
When she at parting so bitterly grieved.
7. And now, as all other pastime was wanting,
He drew out the bag and fell to counting
The money, and found to his happiness
That the little bag contained no less
8. Than thirty different pieces of money,
All of silver, thick, heavy and shiny,
Gilders and dollars manifold,
Mostly of coinage rare and old.

9. His mother had saved them one after another,
And for future emergencies laid them together,
For not unjustly she had the name
Of being an economical dame.
10. Then too the servant who attended him
By way of pastime occasionally handed him
Some of the victualia
His parents had provided to eat on the way.
11. Now when in this kind of occupation,
Hieronimus had ridden some hours in succession,
Faint and weary he at length got down
At the tavern of the aforefaid town.
12. Here indeed he found the postwagon
In which to the university he was to jog on ;
But it so happened that the cart
Was not at the moment ready to start.
13. Hieronimus first of all directed,
That his nag to the stable should be conducted ;
The servant put some oats in the rack,
And took the portmanteau off his back.
14. At the same time he began to be thinking,
Of refreshing himself by eating and drinking,
And soon to the table he found his way,
And there grew strong and fresh and gay.
15. Now there was in the tavern a fellow lodger,
With a great peruke, and a rich-looking codger,
The man from distant countries came,
Herr Baron von Hogier was his name.

16. The stranger showed our hero much honour,
And inquired who he was in a friendly manner;
Hieronimus answered without demur,
"I am a student, respected sir,
17. "At your honour's service, and right glad am I
That I am going to the academy,
There to study diligently
The science of theology."
18. "Ah! well, I wish you all the joy I can, sir!"
The gentleman in the great peruke made answer,
"But, I advise you, take great care
That you do not get into trouble there.
19. "I in my time have had some knowledge
Of the way they carry on at college;
Many a young freshman throws away
His time and money on cursed play.
20. "And many, instead of studying with application,
Run into all manner of dissipation,
And waste their valuable time
In many a folly, not to say crime.
21. "My own experience can answer
For this sad truth, indeed it can, sir:
I beg you therefore to attend
To what I say, on the word of a friend."
22. "Dear sir," Hieronimus responded,
"I thank you for advice so candid,
And the timely wisdom you have taught
Shall never in all my life be forgot.

23. "At the same time I will not disguise the truth, fir,
 Playing has great attractions for this youth, fir,
 But I have the honor to assure you that I,
 Whenever I do play, never play high."
24. "In moderate playing I see no danger,"
 Politely answered the distinguished stranger,
 " One loses nothing, except ennui,
 And passes the time quite pleasantly."
25. " We, for example, here together,
 For the sake of amusing one another,
 Might play a little game," said he,
 " With innocence and propriety."
26. Hieronimus, without the least suspicion,
 Accepted the gentleman's proposition,
 And was very willing to take a game
 Or two, until the postwagon came.
27. The thing was done as soon as decided,
 The host a new pack of cards provided
 And placed before his guests, and straightway
 The two sat down and began to play.
28. They set their stakes quite low in the beginning,
 But Hieronimus, led on by his love of winning,
 To mark up higher and higher begun,
 Because at first he regularly won.
29. But all on a sudden fortune deserted
 Our hero, with whom she had previously flirted,
 And the gentleman in the great peruke
 Both all the honors and profits took.

30. And thus Hieronimus had very soon parted
With all the loose money he took when he started,
And now as his losses came thick and fast,
He drew out the little bag at last.
31. And now Hieronimus began to grow frightened,
For at every throw the bag was lightened,
And it became very evident that luck
Would smile on the gentleman in the great peruke.
32. In less than three-quarters of an hour the blessing
Of his poor dear mother was entirely missing,
For the gentleman in the great peruke
Had robbed him of all by hook and crook.
33. For the good Hieronimus had not detected,
In fact he never for a moment suspected,
That he was cheated by him of the great peruke,
For Herr von Hogier had an honest look.
34. At last he really began to
Think of unbuckling his portmanteau,
To stake the little therein contained,
Which would his resources have entirely drained,
35. But at that moment so highly ominous,
The gentleman in the peruke and Hieronimus,
Both heard on a sudden the postillion blow,
As a signal for Hieronimus to go.
36. He felt a little reluctance at parting,
Then suddenly and impetuously starting,
He jumped up into the post-wagon and took
Leave of the gentleman in the great peruke.

CHAPTER XII.

How Hieronimus took the Post-wagon, and how he found therein a fair one with whom he fell in love, and who stole his watch.

I WILL now proceed with a narration
Of what befel Hieronimus on leaving the station,
For he is not rid of his troubles yet,
But further obstacles are to be met.

1. The great peruke would still come gliding
Into his thoughts as he went on riding,
And he now for the first time began to see
That the fellow no better than a knave could be.
3. His conscience kept up a terrible racket
About the loss of the maternal packet,
He sighed and groaned and wished bad luck
To the gentleman in the great peruke.
4. He murmured so that people could hear him;
But a beautiful damsel sitting near him,
On whom his eyes till now scarce fell,
Roused him from the melancholy spell.

5. She seemed about twenty years—not older,
Black eyes and hair and a very white shoulder,
Rofy-red in mouth and cheek
And, the truth in a fingle word to fpeak,
6. Her being was nothing but grace, appealing
Irrefiftibly to the tendereft feeling.
This fairy inquired, half in jeft,
What sorrow difturbed Hieronimus' breaft.
7. Wherewith ſhe pleaſantly ſmiled upon him,
Which pleaſant ſmile of her's quite won him.
So that, as cloſe by her ſide he ſot,
The loſs of his packet he quite forgot.
8. A glow of rapture kindled his fancies,
For in her whole perſon and tender glances,
A youth like him could not fail to find
Something quite dangerous to his peace of mind.
9. After leſs than half an hour's duration
He had made, in beſt ſtyle, a declaration
As fervent as ever a hero of romance
Can make to his love by his author's hands.
10. She ſeemed to hear him with ſome predilection,
At all events ſhe made no objection,
Hieronimus therefore edged up more near
And began to whiſper in her ear.
11. I know not what further paſſed on the occaſion
Improper to mention in this narration,
Suffice it, with both, the time paſſed by
In ſweet, confidential familiarity.

12. When at last they came to the post-station
 She bade adieu with friendly protestation,
 But in what direction she went from here
 Shall by and by be made to appear.
13. When, after several hours had transpired
 Since the fair one from the carriage retired,
 Hieronimus for his watch looked round,
 That too had retired and was not to be found.
14. This second trick of fatal termination
 Was to Hieronimus a great aggravation,
 For he came to the conclusion that she who left
 So suddenly must have committed the theft.
15. Meanwhile nothing was left the good student
 But to exercise patience and be more prudent,
 In short he determined, come what might,
 To practise in future more foresight.
16. He therefore formed a firm determination,
 So soon as he should come to the place of education,
 A letter to his parents to send,
 For a new watch and some money to spend.
17. At last without further molestation
 He arrived at the place of his destination,
 Behold therefore our Hieronimus
 Henceforward an Academicus.

NOTE.

Stanza 3. *Luck* must be pronounced in a certain provincial English style, to rhyme with *peruke*.

CHAPTER XIII.

*How Hieronimus at the University did diligently study
Theology.*

HIERONIMUS on his arrival, without hesitation,
Received, stante pede, his matriculation,
And so became immediately
A studiosus of theology.

2. At universities, from all points of the compass,
Some to get knowledge and some to raise a rumpus,
Great numbers of students together are flung,
Large and little and old and young.
3. And so at this one from every nation
Were many in search of an education,
And many new ones came every year
To prosecute various studies here.
4. *Exempli gratiâ*, law and theology,
Philosophy, medicine and cosmology,
And whatsoever other fine arts
Are needed to help them act well their parts.
5. But most of them, instead of pondering
Their studies, set themselves to squandering
Their money, fared sumptuously every day
And threw their precious time away.

- 6 Hieronimus who liked study no better than others,
Soon joined himself to the merry brothers,
And very shortly made it appear
As if he had long been familiar here.
7. For he daily lived in *Floribus*
As well as the best academicus,
And many a precious night he spent
In carroufing and boufing to his heart's content.
8. Wine, beer and tobacco were his inspiration,
And they gave his voice a fine inflation,
When he with loud and mighty clang
The *gaudeamus igitur* sang.
9. His fellows all who gathered round him
The model of a faithful student found him,
He lived as a *burfch* of high renown
And great was his fame through all the town.
10. As to those three detefted creatures,
Philiftines and Beadles and night-rogue-catchers,
Hieronimus as a hero true
Had often cudgelled them black and blue.
11. Many a *Pereat* he againft them had vented,
And with ludicrous tricks their peace tormented,
And in thefe and various other ways
As a *renownift* acquired great praife.
12. The fummer he fpent in racing and riding,
And in winter was continually fleighing and fliding,
In fhort Hieronimus felt himfelf free
To indulge in all manner of luxury.

13. Often he went on a pleasure pillage
To one or another neighboring village,
And mostly where he was likely to find
Some fair one sociably inclined.
14. To breaking windows nightly he was addicted,
Many tricks on young *foxes* inflicted,
Dice and cards and billiards played,
And not much progress in learning made.
15. In rows and riots he found great enjoyment,
Sleeping in taverns was his daily employment,
But twice in every month or so,
To college hall for a change would go.
16. Whenever impatient duns came after
Their money, they were sent off with laughter,
Or else in counterfeit money were paid,
And very angry and foolish made.
17. His books and clothes he'd sell to pawnbrokers
And spend the money with drinkers and smokers,
In short there was none of his time could be
Compared with him in deviltry.
18. To be sure he was often shut up in the Carcer,
And there to the law was made to answer,
And for his crimes on one occasion
He barely escaped the relegation.
19. For three years long he had pursued this vocation,
And often for money had made application
To his parents, but his letters were worded so
That they never suspected their son was such a go.

20. That no one in this could possibly be apter
 Than Hieronimus we shall show in the next chapter,
 Which gives of this queer correspondence a taste,
 And therefore now close the present in haste.
-

NOTES.

Stanza 7. *In Floribus*, equivalent to our "living in clover."

Stanza 8. "Let us then rejoice while our youth is blooming!"

Stanza 11. *Pereat!* is the opposite of *Vivat!*

Stanza 14. *Foxes* are freshmen.

Stanza 18. The Carcer is the college prison. *Relagation* is dismissal.

CHAPTER XIV.

*Contains the copy of a letter, which, among many others,
the student Hieronimus did write to his parents*



DEAR and Honored Parents,
I lately
Have suffered for want of money greatly;
Have the goodness, then, to send without fail
A trifle or two by return of mail.

2. I want about twenty or thirty ducats ;
For I have not at present a cent in my pockets ;
Things are so tight with us this way,
Send me the money at once, I pray.
3. And everything is growing higher,
Lodging and washing and lights and fire,
And incidental expenses every day—
Send me the ducats without delay.
4. You can hardly conceive the enormous expenses
The college imposes, on all pretences,
For text-books and lectures so much to pay—
I wish the ducats were on their way!
5. I devote to my studies unremitting attention—
One thing I must not forget to mention :
The thirty ducats—pray send them straight
For my purse is in a beggarly state.
6. Boots and shoes, and stockings and breeches,
Tailoring, washing, and extra stitches,
Pen, ink and paper, are all so dear !
I wish the thirty ducats were here !
7. The money—(I trust you will speedily send it !)
I promise faithfully to spend it ;
Yes, dear parents, you never need fear,
I live very strictly and frugally here.
8. When other students revel and riot,
I steal away into perfect quiet,
And shut myself up with my books and light
In my study-chamber till late at night.

9. Beyond the needful supply of my table,
I spare, dear parents, all I am able ;
Take tea but rarely, and nothing more,
For spending money afflicts me sore.
10. Other students, who'd fain be called *mellow*,
Set me down for a niggardly fellow,
And say : there goes the *dig*, just look !
How like a parson he eyes his book !
11. With jibes and jokes they daily beset me,
But none of these things do I suffer to fret me ;
I smile at all they can do or say—
Don't forget the ducats, I pray !
12. Ten hours each day I spend at the college,
Drinking at the fount of knowledge,
And when the Lectures come to an end,
The rest in private study I spend.
13. The Professors express great gratification,
Only they hope I will use moderation,
And not wear out in my studiis
Philosophicis et theologicis.
14. It would favor, dear parents, of self-laudation,
To enter on an enumeration
Of all my studies—in brief, there is none
More exemplary than your dear son.
15. My head seems ready to burst afunder,
Sometimes, with its learned load, and I wonder
Where so much knowledge is packed away :
(Apropos ! don't forget the ducats, I pray !)

16. Yes, dearest parents, my devotion to study
Consumes the best strength of mind and body,
And generally even the night is spent
In meditation deep and intent.
17. In the pulpit soon I shall take my station,
And try my hand at the preacher's vocation,
Likewise I dispute in the college-hall
On learned subjects with one and all.
18. But don't forget to send me the ducats,
For I long so much to replenish my pockets ;
The money, one day shall be returned
In the shape of a son right wise and learn'd.
19. Then my *Privatissimum* (I've been thinking on it
For a long time—and in fact begun it)
Will cost me twenty Rix-dollars more,
Please send with the ducats I mentioned before.
20. I also, dear parents, inform you sadly,
I have torn my coat of late, very badly,
So please enclose with the rest in your note
Twelve dollars to purchase a new coat.
21. New boots are also necessary,
Likewise my night-gown is ragged, very ;
My hat and pantaloons, too, alas !
And the rest of my clothes are going to grafts.
22. Now, as all these things are needed greatly,
Please enclose me four Louis d'ors separately,
Which, joined to the rest, perhaps will be
Enough for the present emergency.

23. My recent sickness you may not have heard of,
In fact, for some time, my life was despaired of,
But I haste to assure you, on my word,
That now my health is nearly restored.
24. The Medicus, for services rendered,
A bill of eighteen guilders has tendered,
And then the apothecary's will be,
In round numbers, about twenty-three.
25. Now that physician and apothecary
May get their dues, it is necessary
These forty-one guilders be added to the rest,
But, as to my health, don't be distressed.
26. The nurse would also have some compensation,
Who attended me in my critical situation,
I, therefore, think it would be best
To enclose seven guilders for her with the rest.
27. For citrons, jellies and things of that nature,
To sustain and strengthen the feeble creature,
The confectioner, too, has a small account,
Eight guilders is about the amount.
28. These various items, of which I've made mention,
Demand immediate attention ;
For order, to me, is very dear,
And I carefully from debts keep clear.
29. I also rely on your kind attention,
To forward the ducats of which I made mention
So soon as it can possibly be—
One more small item occurs to me :—

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30. Two weeks ago I unluckily stumbled,
And down the length of the stairway tumbled,
As in at the college door I went,
Whereby my right arm almost double was bent.
31. The Chirurgus who attended on the occasion,
For his balfams, plasters and preparation
Of spirits, and other things needles to name,
Charges 12 dollars; please forward the same.
32. But, that your minds may be acquiescent,
I am, thank God, now convalescent;
Both shoulder and shin are in a very good way,
And I go to lecture every day.
33. My stomach is still in a feeble condition,
A circumstance owing, so thinks the physician,
To sitting so much, when I read and write,
And studying so long and so late at night.
34. He, therefore, earnestly advises
Burgundy wine, with nutmeg and spices,
And every morning, instead of tea,
For the stomach's sake to drink sangaree.
35. Please send, agreeably to these advices,
Two pistoles for the wine and spices,
And be sure, dear parents, I only take
Such things as these for the stomach's sake.
36. Finally, a few small debts, amounting
To thirty or forty guilders (loose counting),
Be pleased, in your letter, without fail,
Dear parents, to enclose this bagatelle.

37. And could you, for fundries, send me twenty
Or a dozen Louis d'or (that would be plenty),
 'Twould be a kindness seasonably done,
And very acceptable to your son.
38. This letter, dear parents, comes hoping to find you
In usual health—I beg to remind you
 How much I am for money perplexed,
Please, therefore, to remit in your next.
39. Herewith I close my letter, repeating
To you and all my friendly greeting,
 And subscribe myself, without further fufs,
 Your obedient son,
 HIERONIMUS.
40. I add in a postscript what I neglected
To say, beloved and highly respected
 Parents, I beg most filially,
That you'll forward the money as soon as may be.
41. For I had, dear father (I say it weeping),
Fourteen French Crowns laid by in safe keeping
 (As I thought) for a day of need—but the whole
An anonymous person yesterday stole.
42. I know you'll make good, unasked, each shilling,
Your innocent son has lost by this villain;
 For a man so confederate must be aware
That I such a loss can nowise bear.

43. Meanwhile I'll take care that, to-day or to-morrow,
Mister Anonymous shall, to his sorrow
And your satisfaction, receive the reward
Of his graceless trick with the hempen cord.
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NOTE.

Stanza 19. In college, pursuing an extra study with some Tutor is called taking a *private*; of course a *privatissimum* would be a *very* private course. See "College Words and customs."

CHAPTER XV.

*Here follows a copy of the written reply of old Senator
Jobs to the foregoing letter.*

OLD Senator Jobs's answer (*verbatim,*
Literatim atque punctatim)

In form and manner as follows would run :
Dearly beloved and hopeful son !

2. I am very happy to see, by thy letter,
That thy health and prospects are daily better,
Nevertheless it causes me pain,
That thou makest mention of money again.
3. It is scarce three months, O rarest of scholars !
Since I sent thee a hundred and fifty dollars,
I wonder, my son, thou considerest not
Where in the world so much cash can be got.
4. I also learn, with lively satisfaction,
That thou findest in study such great attraction,
But it is with the highest concern I see
That thou askest thirty ducats of me.
5. Allow me, my son, the observation,
That, on the most liberal computation,
A university residence
Cannot be, with frugality, such an expense.

6. Most truly thou art right in saying
That lectures and books are not had without paying,
But it must take a great many to come
To such an enormons, unheard-of sum.
7. For lodging and washing and lights and fire
One cannot possibly require
So much, and for paper and pens and ink
A very few pence would suffice, I should think.
8. I also perceive with gratification
That thou keepest thyself from the contamination
Of evil companions, especially by night,
Thy books and chamber thy sole delight.
9. Likewise I am greatly pleased with thy drinking
Nothing but tea,—but I can't help thinking:
To one who pores over his books and drinks tea,
What use can these thirty ducats be?
10. That other students for a niggard abuse thee
May very properly amuse thee,
For he who spends all that thou hast figured,
Deserves to be called anything but a niggard.
11. Let me advise thee to continue the attention
To thy studies of which thou makest mention,
That thy precious time and thy money, both,
May be wisely spent and not wasted in sloth.
12. But mind, my son, the advice of the physician,
And beware of even a *laudable* ambition,
For alas! too often we find it a rule
That the greatest scholar's the greatest fool.

13. Thy purpose of preaching deserves commendation,
Be diligent, therefore, in thy preparation,
But from much disputation, when all is done,
Precious little wisdom comes out, my son.
14. The use of a *Privatissimum* I can't conjecture,
When one is already ten hours at lecture,
And I comprehend it the less, as you say,
There are twenty Rixdollars to pay.
15. But I waive all further commentary,
For the money thou findest necessary
In pursuing thy studies I gladly allow,
And though it were three times as much as now.
16. According to thy story (no doubt a true one),
Thou hast torn thy coat, and need'st a new one,
Nevertheless the cloth must be superfine,
To cost twelve dollars, or even nine.
17. But he that will study to be a pastor,
Should not dress so much better than his Master,
Therefore a somewhat coarser stuff
Would make thee a coat quite good enough.
18. For other articles of wearing apparel
About the four Louis d'or, I shan't quarrel,
When night-gown, hat and trowsers wear out,
New ones are necessary without doubt.
19. But if I must make, for all this raiment,
And so forth, special and separate payment,
What shall become, Hieronimus dear,
Of the thirty ducats, to me is not clear.

20. I received with much feeling the information
Of thy recent critical situation,
But to tamper with physic to such an extent,
I must say, my son, is money mispent.
21. For I scarce ever knew of the rule failing,
With young folks especially, that when one is ailing,
Nature does better when left to herself,
Than the best mixture on the apothecary's shelf.
22. The expense of the Doctor and his preparation
Seems to me little less than an abomination,
And I very seriously question:
Can an apothecary or a Doctor be a Christian?
23. And as to the nurse's compensation
Who attended you in your critical situation,
'Twould have been enough if thou hadst given
A single guilder instead of seven.
24. Unless she had previously shown thee attention
Of another description which thou dost not mention,
For this, dear son, I am forced to infer,
From thy paying seven guilders to her.
25. And then the confectioner's bill of eight guilders—
My son, my son! it almost bewilders
Thy father's brain!—if thou hadst been wise,
A dollar at most would now suffice.
26. For citrons, confits, and things of that nature,
Administer no strength to the feeble creature,
But oatmeal gruel and barley drinks
Are better, far, for the sick, methinks.

27. To fall down stairs is highly injurious,
See to it next time thou art not so furious
To get to thy studies, but take more care,
For it costs a great deal such damage to repair.
28. Thy surgeon has taken thee in completely,
For our town-barber, who works so neatly,
Will, for twelve dollars, I'm told, restore
A broken leg as whole as before.
29. But I'm happy to hear of thy restoration,
For when the parson is in his peroration,
His arm must be in a flexible state,
That so he may pound and gesticulate.
30. I must further lament thy stomach's weakness
Occasioned by thy recent sickness;
My stomach, I'm sorry to say, is feeble
From sitting so much at the Council-table.
31. Nevertheless my earnest advice is:
Abstain from Burgundy wine and spices;
A bit of flag-root now and then
Will help thy stomach as much again.
32. Thou mentionest "some small debts, amounting
To thirty or forty guilders, (loose counting);"
I've thought and thought and racked my brain
To guess what debts those can be, but in vain.
33. Thou hast given already in specification,
Item by item (outside calculation),
And forty guilders, thou knowest full well,
Upon my soul are no "bagatelle!"

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34. And finally thou needest (for such thy pretence is),
A dozen Pistoles for thy general expenses ;
No doubt it were very agreeable to thee,
But to me inconvenient in the highest degree.
35. For as to any unexpected urgency
Those *thirty ducats* will meet the emergency,
These last dozen Louis d'or seem to me,
In that view, a mere superfluity.
36. And as to the stolen crowns, thy suggestion,
In point of delicacy, admits of a question,
For truly the reparation were sorer to me
Than the alleged robbery is to thee.
37. But, from this disagreeable subject to pass on,
Thy proposal to string the thief up sans façon
Is by no means a Christian sentiment ;
Mr. Anonymous may one day repent.
38. Besides, 'tis a matter of congratulation
In these our days of illumination,
I say it confidentially in thy ear,
Holy justice has grown less severe.
39. No one who chances a drawer to rifle,
Need mount the double ladder for such a trifle,
At least, in our wise Schildburg they say,
Far greater rogues go clear every day.
40. When thou in future hast money in keeping,
I advise thee to guard it with vigilance unsleeping,
For nothing is so universal a subject of speculation
As money deposited for preservation.

41. I and thy mother understand the thing better,
Learn wisdom, therefore, from this present letter
We always lock our cash up tight
And anxiously watch it by day and night.
42. But to appease thy present desire,
And supply what immediate wants require,
Be pleased hereby the moneys to find
In a sealed linen bag, each separate kind.
43. Nevertheless, I must hint to thee, Hieronimus,
That the times we live in are rather ominous,
And it costs me many an anxious thought
Where so much money can ever be got.
44. There's a very small trifle of business doing,
Folks are so poor—scarce anything brewing
In the honorable Council, and so
My incomes, you see, are very low.
45. I shall, therefore, await with pleased expectation,
The day of thy final graduation,
Especially as, by this time, without doubt,
Thou hast in every branch learned out.
46. For if thou should'st longer stay and study
As diligently and *dearly* as thou hast already,
I shall grow as poor as Job was once,
Utterly unable to raise any more funds.
47. We all desire to welcome, greatly,
Our learned son in a style right stately,
Especially thy mother with joy
Looks forward to the return of her boy.

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48. I wish I had some news to write you,
But things are mostly in *quo fitu*;
I go as usual, early and late,
To the Council-room to deliberate.
49. There we have had in consideration,
In pleno, many an alteration,
Whereby our police affairs may be
Administered judiciously.
50. Thy mother's teeth have troubled her greatly,
But a distinguished surgeon, lately,
From foreign parts, came along one day,
And took the troublesome teeth away.
51. A parson is paying attention to your sister
Gertrude, his name and title is Mifter
Procurator Geier, 'tis well under way,
And Trudy grows taller every day.
52. Our old parson is always ailing,
They think his health is decidedly failing,
If this excellent man should be taken away,
Thou mightest be our Parson one day.
53. Our wealthy neighbor's daughter Betty
Sends hearty greetings—the girl is pretty,
And neat and tidy, and would be
A nice little parson's wife for thee.
54. Thy brothers and sisters all send their greeting
In the joyful hope of a speedy meeting,
They are glad to hear of thy health and success,
And, with wishes for thy happiness,

55. I remain,

Thy father (in course of natur),

Hans Jobs, *pro tempore* Senator.

P. S. Write again at an early day,

But spare thy allusions to money, I pray.

NOTES.

Stanza 40. Does not the last couplet seem almost prophetic?

Stanza 43. N. B.—The rhyme in the first couplet is strictly copy-righted.

Stanza 48. The second line shows old Jobs a rare Latinist.

Stanza 49. In pleno—or, as *we* might say, “in Committee of the Whole.”

CHAPTER XVI.

How Hieronimus finished his studies, and how he journeyed home, and how it stood with his learning; neatly represented in the present engraving.



SINCE, now, one cannot forever tarry
At universities, it became necessary

That after a space of three years had flown
Hieronimus should prepare to go home.

2. As his time of study had now fully expired
And his presence at home was very much desired,
Immediately he set about
Doing all that was needed to fit himself out.

3. His luggage required but a short time to pack it
For saving boots, sword, waistcoat and jacket,
And whatever else on his body was seen,
There was no other article, dirty or clean.
4. For books there was no need of asking about them,
He could get along very well without them,
And except a single sermon alone
Not the least scripture did he own.
5. A friend had given him this as a present,
And taught him to repeat it by labour incessant,
That so, whenever an occasion transpired,
He might preach easily at home if desired.
6. He thought with no little trepidation
Of presenting himself to his parents in this situation,
For if in this manner he should appear,
The state of the case would at once be clear.
7. At last he concluded, that when they began to
Inquire about his purse and portmanteau,
He would make believe that somebody stole,
On his journey home, the whole.
8. Also some sighs would start, quite ominous,
How will it fare with thee, poor Hieronimus!
When thou an examination shalt undergo,
And show how much thou dost not know?
9. Verily he was filled with remorse and vexation
So that he almost shed tears on the occasion,
To think that for so much time and cost
He had so little learning to boast.

10. But all his manœuvring, contriving and inventing,
Wishing and sighing and groaning and grunting,
Brought him no sort of peace at all,
For the time was gone beyond recall.
11. Therefore, by way of alleviation,
He sent out formaliter an invitation
To his friends at the university,
And gave them a valedictory spree.
12. Here then, once more, was a regular rollicking,
Drinking and smoking and singing and frolicking,
'Till at last the dismal morning breaks,
And Hieronimus his farewell takes.
13. Right heavily now his heart was shaken
And bitter grief did the parting awaken,
Yes, he really boohoo'd right out
In the arms of the friends that crowded about.
14. Before, however, his final clearance,
At the Professor's he made his appearance,
Who gave him, for the ready money,
An academic testimony.
15. It was not indeed quite creditable,
But Hieronimus, who to read it was unable,
(For it was written in Latin and Greek)
Into his bag the paper did stick.
16. We leave him, therefore, his journey pursuing
Homeward, the reader meanwhile may be viewing,
Prefixed to this chapter, a copper-plate
That shows, as to learning, his real state.

CHAPTER XVII.

How Hieronimus, booted and spurred, returns to his friends.



- O**NE day, when old Senator Jobs, after dinner,
(For such was his accustomed manner,)
With pipe in mouth, leaned back his head
In the easy-chair and his newspaper read ;
2. And meanwhile, Mrs. Jobs was making a pother
In the kitchen, about something or other,
And nobody dreaming of any harm,
All on a sudden there rose an alarm ;

3. For a stately rider, booted and spurry,
Came riding up the street in a hurry,
And straight at the house they heard, slam-bang,
Somebody dismount with a terrible clang.
4. Like a knell in the family's ears it sounded,
Old Jobs let fall his paper, astounded,
And the pipe itself came near to break ;
And Mrs. Jobs was too frightened to speak.
5. But soon from this panic in which they were taken,
The rider did their senses 'waken,
As, in full traveling costume,
He came at once right into the room.
6. The old folks apparently neither of them knew him,
But he kept quiet and let them view him,
Till at last the old man jumped from his chair
To see his dear Hieronimus there.
7. I have not the qualifications in any measure,
To sing the exceeding and mighty pleasure
Of the good old Senator at seeing his boy,
He almost went out of his head for joy.
8. The mother too, could hardly contain herself,
Nor from kissing his hands and feet restrain herself,
As soon as she saw that it must needs be
Hieronimus, and none but he.
9. They almost cried, in the overmeasure
Of their very great and distressing pleasure,
And the Welcome home ! and the God be praised !
Held on till a stranger had been half-crazed.

10. And Senator Jobs's remaining children
Were also at hand, till it became quite bewilderin',
They all of them seemed in a perfect bother,
For not a soul of them knew their brother.
11. 'Twas really exceeding curious
To hear what the children made of Hieronimus:
One held him to be a distinguished guest
Who had just arrived from the East or West;
12. Another, on account of his sword and his danger-
ous dress and equipment, considered the stranger
As one who bags up children small;
This thought did the youngest particularly appal.
13. But very funny was it with Esther,
Our Hieronimus's youngest sister,
For she kept up a continual clack
About her strange uncle from Gengenbach.
14. In the three years he had spent at college,
His person had quite outgrown their knowledge,
His belly had waxed exceeding thick
And there was a deal of hair on chin and cheek.
15. It was not, therefore, a matter of wonder
That they at first should make such a blunder,
Especially as his student-dress
Made it difficult, who he was, to guess.
16. A very tall hat with a very tall feather,
Breeches and waistcoat of yellow buck's leather,
With a short cravat of some gray stuff,
Disguised Hieronimus well enough.

17. Add to this a mighty great sword, suspended
From his left side, with which he defended
His person from any sudden attack,
Fit alike for a thrust or a thwack.
18. And then his look, so martial and bloody,
That seemed to threaten death to everybody ;
His hair hanging down in great masses too,
And behind, a great pig-tail of a queue.
19. These and other arrangements I might mention,
Soon attracted his father's attention,
For a simple decorous black dress
Would better have suited his parents, I guess.
20. Nor did Hieronimus's general behaviour
Recommend him to old father Job's favour,
Especially when he Hieronimus heard
Venting curses at every word.
21. He gave him, therefore, to understand clearly
That he must alter all this entirely,
For surely a young Theologus
Must never be heard to swear and curse.
22. When a few moments after he asked for the coffer,
Hieronimus did the information proffer,
And swore to it most lustily :
It was stolen from the postwagon, said he.
23. This disagreeable information
Threw the father into great agitation,
And he would immediately have begun
To scold, but the mother excused her son ;

24. Sne stepped between Hieronimus and his father,
Saying, 'tis surely the misfortune rather
Than any fault of our dear son ;
So the old man submitted and was mum.
25. Meanwhile the neighbours were rapidly learning
The news of Hieronimus's returning,
From house to house the rumour flew
"Till it was known the whole town through.
26. It seemed a weighty public matter,
It kept the streets in a constant clatter,
And at every casual neighborly meeting
"Hieronimus is here" was the very first greeting.
27. In universal congratulation,
At Senator Jobs's habitation,
The rest of the remaining day did wag
And nothing more was thought of the bag.
28. Hieronimus feasted away quite cheery,
For his journey had made him faint and weary,
And he smoked till he emptied, as I can vouch,
His daddy's great tobacco pouch.

NOTE.

In the wood-cut that heads this Chapter, the object on the left resembling a screw, as if to draw the rider along by an invisible wire, is presumed to be no more nor less than a mile-stone. The reader will please not let it disturb his dreams.

CHAPTER XVIII.

How Hieronimus now began to be clerical, and how he got a black dress and a peruke, and how he preached for the first time in the pulpit, &c.

THE day after that to which we've been referring,

When all in the house were up and stirring,
And round the breakfast table they sat,
Sipping their coffee in social chat,

2. The father began to call attention
As follows: Dear Son, it is proper to mention,
That thy style of raiment hitherto
Will for the future hardly do.
3. And first and foremost must thou hasten
That terrible sword from thy side to unfasten,
Because a servant of the Lord
Don't never fight except with the word.
4. Likewise the gray collar and waistcoat of leather
And breeches and boots must be laid aside altogether,
As also the mighty feather hat,
For no clergyman is allowed to wear that.

5. For if this rig should be seen by any body,
They would certainly cry out, "O Luddy!
We've surely got a cuirassier,
Instead of our future parson, here."
6. Know also that a round peruke is fitter
For a clerical head and looks much better,
And a great deal more respectable, too,
Than ropy hair and a pig-tail queue!
7. It is therefore thy father's pleasure
That the tailor should come and take thy measure,
That he may make thee this very day
A suit of black without delay.
8. The peruke-maker has also had warning,
To come, if you please, this very morning,
To make thee a wig that thou mayst wear
Over thy frowzy head of hair.
9. It will make thee look respectable, very,
But it is also necessary
That thou shouldst leave off swearing to-day
And endeavour to live in a clerical way.
10. Hieronimus listened, reluctantly rather,
To the rational counsel of his father,
But concluded to fulfil the desire
Of his grave and venerable sire.
11. Behold him, therefore, ere the day had expired,
In full black dress and peruke attired,
He was also in a white cravat arrayed
By his mother's *manu propria* made.

12. Thus clerically fitted out, he communicated
To his parents that he meditated,
God willing, in this livery
To preach next Sunday publicly.
13. On the Sunday following Hieron'mus
Did really preach in pursuance of his promise,
And without special obstacle
Got through his sermon very well.
14. For as we above, Chapter XVI., made mention,
A friend had politely shown him the attention
Of writing for him a sermon, which he
Could now deliver conveniently.
15. 'Twas an excellent piece of composition,
Choke full of wisdom and erudition,
And smelt so of the study shelf
That Hieronimus did'nt understand it himself.
16. His external appearance was likewise splendid,
His arms and hands he mightily extended,
And his tenor voice so strong and clear
Went stately into the public ear.
17. His sermon was heard by many hundred,
Who all at his talent greatly wondered,
They nodded their heads and the whisper ran
Through all the house: "What a wonderful man!
18. "Who on earth would have ever suspected
That anything like this could have been concocted
Out of Job's dull Hieronimus?
'Tis a perfect miracle to us!"

19. Likewise there was not a single relation
Absent from the congregation,
And every one thought: "Our cousin Jobs
Looks remarkably well in his clerical robes!"
20. But 'tis vain to attempt to describe the elation
Of the two good parents on this occasion,
There cannot be a doubt, thought they,
He's the greatest orator of the day.
21. When divine service had come to a termination,
They adjourned to partake of a great collation,
Given in Senator Jobs's house,
Where all the relations went to carouse.
22. And while the dinner they were eating,
Hieronimus' praise they were constantly repeating,
And many a great glass of wine
Was drunk to the health of our young divine.
23. The whole assembly was also unanimous
That, under existing circumstances, Hieronimus,
Who to-day had preached so brilliantly
Before the present company,
24. Must certainly next make bold to venture
His name as candidate to enter,
That so, in optima formâ he
Should Candidatus Ministerii be.
25. 'Tis true, as a preliminary,
An Examen would be necessary,
But the recent specimen showed that he
Would find therein no difficulty.

26. Especially as the present incumbent was weakly,
Old and infirm and somewhat sickly,
Hieronimus might without any offence
Enter the vacant parish at once.
27. That is, in case, by the blessing of heaven,
The parson should go the way of all living,
For his feeble constitution gave place
For suspicion that this would be shortly the case.
28. Hieronimus, overpowered by the solicitations
And weighty reasons of his friends and relations,
Gave, anxiously enough, God knows,
His consent to what they did propose.
29. For the rest, he emptied with great pleasure
Of liquor many a brimming measure,
But when that Examen came into his head
It struck his heart with a sort of dread.
30. At last his anxiety fought consolation
In a regular fit of intoxication,
Although old Jobs his displeasure made known,
By repeatedly shaking his head at his son.

NOTE.

Stanza 8. *Frowny*. This word is not *frouzy*, which has a different meaning. Our word is found only in an old Dictionary in the Jobs family.

CHAPTER XIX.

*How Hieronimus was examined for a Candidate, and
how he made out.*

- H**OWEVER he stuck to his determination,
And the clerisy held a convocation,
And every one came in his wig and robes
To the examination of Hieronimus Jobs.
2. But how he felt in view of his danger,
Being to learning an utter stranger,
And what an anxious face he made,
The reader will not comprehend, I'm afraid.
 3. The scene is beyond my power of painting :
If he ever in his life saw the hour for fainting,
That hour at last was approaching now ;
Alas ! thou poor Hieronimus, thou !
 4. Begin now, Mifs Muse, an enumeration
Of the clerical gentleman whom the examination
Brought hither on the appointed day
From every quarter of Swabia.

5. The first, *that* was the *Herr Inspector*,
In doctrine strong as a second Hector,
A stately, pot-bellied man was he,
Whom you saw at a glance an Inspector to be.
6. This post was accorded to his singular merit,
Its burdens he bore with a patient spirit,
And, to say the truth, with a cheerful mood,
And daily ate and drank what was good.
7. And after him came the *ghostly Assessor*,
A man whose breadth was somewhat lesser,
But height much greater: he was spare of limb,
And his disposition exceedingly grim.
8. He not only the spiritual interests defended,
But to matters of economy also attended,
And drank only bad wine and beer,
For his income was small and his habit severe.
9. Then came *Herr Krager*, an oldish man rather,
Who was very well versed in many a church father,
And to prove a point could readily quote
Whatever any one of 'em wrote.
10. Next *Herr Krisch*, polite as a Castilian,
Who was, in Postils, a perfect postillion;
Posted up in them as well as the best
Parson the Swabian land possessed.
11. Next *Herr Beff*, a Linguist of great reputation,
And a tolerable christian in walk and conversation,
In lecturing a terrible bore,
But always Orthodox to the core.

12. Next *Herr Schrei*, a man of great notoriety
Alike in the pulpit and in general society,
Free and easy—had no wife,
And led with his cook an exemplary life.
13. Next *Herr Plotz*, an angelic creature,
In his youth of a somewhat genial nature,
But when to preach he once began
He became a very pious man.
14. He kept his beloved congregation
From vice and evil communication,
Faithful in season and out was he
To admonish, when he had opportunity.
15. Next *Herr Keffer*, who never could tire
In following his sheep through mud and mire,
But alas! in his flock, beside the lambs,
Were likewise many stiff-necked old rams.
16. Sometimes, to get them to follow his leadings,
He instituted legal proceedings,
For he understood the jura of the state
As well as the very best advocate.
17. Besides those named in the above enumeration,
Other clerical gentlemen attended the examination,
Whom I neither need nor can
Particularly designate man by man.
18. Now when the reverend and ghostly faces
Had all come together in their places,
Præmissis præmittendis, they
Round a great table fate straightway.

19. With trembling and quaking came Hieronimus
Before this assembly of white bands so ominous,
And scraped a greeting submissively,
Oh, woe, Hieronimus! woe on thee!
20. First and formost inquired the *Examinatores*
About his previous manners and *mores*,
And presently asked him whether he
Had a certificate from the university?
21. Hieronimus, without hesitation,
Handed the inspector the attestation,
Who read the same immediately:
Alas! Hieronimus, woe on thee!
22. 'Tis true, the document was worded,
In Latin and Greek, as above recorded,
And consequently not easy to read,
But unfortunately, as ill luck decreed,
23. The Inspector made out, in a free translation
To give a substantial interpretation,
For no other clergyman in the hall
Dared undertake the task at all.
24. To leave no breach in this narration,
I will now give the reader full information,
What Hieronimus' certificate,
Word for word, did properly state.
25. First the name and title of the Professors,
And then in larger hand, the letters
L. B. S., and the meaning of them
Was *Lettori Benevolo Salutem!*

26. "Forasmuch as Herr Hieronimus Jobsius
As Theologiæ Studiosus,
During three years' and some weeks' space
Had his residence in this place,—
27. "And the same now has it in contemplation
To take his leave, and has made application
For a written certificate to me,
A step of great propriety,—
28. "I could not refuse his reasonable desires,
But give hereby the attest he requires,
That the same did every quarter of a year
Once at my lecture-room appear.
29. "Whether the rest was devoted to study
Himself knows better than anybody,
For I in this official report
Assert and testify nothing of the sort.
30. "And as to general behaviour,
There is not much to be said in his favour,
Entire silence on that point would be
The part of christian charity.
31. "For the rest I have only to say, God speed him
On his journey home, and may heaven lead him,
When all these earthly troubles are past,
To the place where he belongs at last!"
32. How the eyes of the learned body distended
When the reading of this document ended,
And that Herr Hieronimus did not laugh
The reader can imagine readily enough.

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33. However on all hands it seemed better
For this once to overlook the matter,
And for charity's sake to find all the good
In the testimonial that they could.
34. For the gentlemen wisely recollected
How many of *their* tricks had not been detected,
And how if they had, it had fared with them,
And so they proceeded at once *ad rem*.
35. The Herr Inspector he led off,
Clearing the way with a mighty cough,
Repeated thrice, thrice did he stroke
His portly paunch and then he spoke:
36. "I, for the time *pro tempore* Inspector
And of the clergy present Director,
Ask you: *Quid sit Episcopus?*"
Straightway replied Hieronimus:
37. "A Bishop is, as I conjecture,
An altogether agreeable mixture
Of fugar, pomegranate juice and red wine,
And for warming and strengthening very fine."
38. The Candidate Jobs this answer making,
There followed of heads a general shaking!
And first the Inspector said, hem! hem!
Then the others *secundum ordinem*.
39. And now the *Assessor* began to inquire:
"Herr Hieronimus! tell me, I desire,
Who the Apostles may have been?"
Hieronimus quick made answer again:

40. "Apoffles they call great jugs, I'm thinking,
In which wine and beer are kept for drinking,
In the villages, and from them oft
By thirsty Burschés liquor is quaffed."
41. The Candidate Jobs this answer making,
There followed of heads a general shaking,
And first the Inspector said, hem ! hem !
Then the others *secundum ordinem*.
42. Herr Krager now in his turn stood ready :
And "if you please, Herr Candidate," said he,
"Inform me who was St. Augustin ?"
Hieronimus answered with open mien :
43. "The only Augustine of whom I've any knowledge
Is the one I used to know at college,
Augustine, the beadle of the university,
Who often before the Prorektor cited me."
44. The Candidate Jobs this answer making,
There followed of heads a general shaking,
And first the Inspector said hem ! hem !
Then the others *secundum ordinem*.
45. Now followed Herr Krisch at once and requested
To know "of how many parts a sermon consfled,
In other words, how many divisions must there be,
When it is written ruleably ?" said he.
46. Hieronimus having taken a moment to determine,
Replied ; "There are two parts to every sermon :
The one of these two parts no man
Can understand, but the other he can."

47. The Candidate Jobs this answer making,
There followed of heads a general shaking,
And first the Inspector said hem! hem!
Then the others *secundum ordinem*.

48. Herr Beff the Linguist continued the examination,
And desired of Herr Hieronimus information :
 "What the Hebrew Kibbutz might be?"
Hieronimus's answer was somewhat free:

49. "I find in a book to which I've paid attention,
Sophia's tour from Memel to Saxony, mention,
That she to the furly Kibbutz fell
Because she refused the rich old swell."

50. The Candidate Jobs this answer making,
There followed of heads a general shaking,
And first the Inspector said hem! hem!
Then the others *secundum ordinem*.

51. Next in turn it came to Herr Schreier,
Who did of Hieronimus inquire,
 *"How many classes of angels he
 Considered there might properly be?"*

52. Hieronimus answered, "He never pretended
With all the angels to be acquainted,
But there was one of them he knew
On the Angel-Tavern sign, painted blue."

53. The Candidate Jobs this answer making,
There followed of heads a general shaking,
And first the Inspector said hem! hem!
And the others *secundum ordinem*.

54. Herr Plotz proceeded with the interrogation :
 *"Can you give, Herr Candidate, an enumeration
 Of the concilia œcumenica ?"*
 And Hieronimus answered ! " Sir,
55. " When I at the univerfity did ftudy
 I was often cited before a body
 Called a council, but it never feemed to me
 To have anything to do with economy."
56. The Candidate Jobs this answer making,
 There followed of heads a general shaking,
 And firft the Infpector faid, hem ! hem !
 Then the others *fecundum ordinem*.
57. Then followed his fpiritual lordfhip, Herr Keffer,
 The queftion he ftarted feemed fomewhat tougher,
 It related "*to the Manichean herefy
 And what their faith was originally.*"
58. Answer : " Yes thefe fimple devils
 Did really think that without any cavils,
 Before my departure, I fhould pay them off
 And in fact I did cudgel them foundly enough."
59. The Candidate Jobs this answer making,
 There followed of heads a general shaking,
 And firft the Infpector faid, hem ! hem !
 Then the others *fecundum ordinem*.
60. The remaining queftions that received attention
 For want of room I omit to mention ;
 For otherwife the protocol
 Would exceed feven fheets, if given in full.

61. For there were many questions, dogmatical,
 Polemical and hermeneutical,
 To which Hieronimus made reply
 In the manner above, successively.
62. And likewise many questions in philology
 And other sciences ending in *ology*,
 And whatever else to a clergyman may
 Be put on examination day.
63. When the Candidate Jobs his answer was making,
 There would follow of heads a general shaking,
 And first the Inspector would say hem ! hem !
 Then the others, *secundum ordinem*.
64. Now when the examination had expired,
 Hieronimus by permission retired,
 That the case might be viewed on every side,
 And the council carefully decide :
65. If conscience would advise the admission
 Of Hieronimus to the position
 And class of candidates for the
 Holy Gospel ministry.
66. Immediately they proceeded to voting,
 But very soon, without much disputing,
 The meeting was unanimous
 That, under the circumstances, Hieronimus
67. Would not persist in his application
 As a candidate for ordination,
 But for special reasons they thought it best,
 To let the matter quietly rest.

68. In fact for years it was kept so private,
No stranger ever heard anything of it,
But everybody early and late
Held Hieronimus for a candidate.
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NOTES.

Stanza 48. *Kibbutz* is a corruption for the Hebrew letter Koph.

Stanza 49. *Kibbutz* is also a name for the Owl.

Stanza 57. The German students nickname their creditors *Manichæans*.

CHAPTER XX.

How the author submissively begs pardon, that the former chapter was so long, and how he promises that the present one shall be so much the shorter ; a chapter of which the rubric is longer than the chapter itself, and which might be omitted without injuring the story.



I HEARTILY beg the reader's pardon,
The previous chapter was such a long and hard one,
The present chapter, dear reader, shall be
So much the shorter, I promise thee.

CHAPTER XXI.

*How Father Jobs the Senator did deliver Hieronimus a
sermon of rebuke, and how he dies of chagrin.*

THE reader should have seen the consternation
That rose in Jobs's habitation,
Because the Examen did not transpire
Entirely in accordance with the general desire.

2. But what then did Hieronimus's father?
Dear reader! pray ask me, what didn't he do rather?
He seized Hieronimus by the nape
Of the neck, and said to him, "Thou scape-
3. "Grace! is't for this I such kindness have done thee
And lavished whole handfulls of money upon thee,
Till I almost myself a poor man became,
To reap only mortification and shame?
4. "Had'st thou but studied with application
And behaved in a manner worthy of approbation,
Thou wouldst without doubt at this time be
A Candidatus Ministerii.
5. "And wouldst get a parish soon and be famous;
But now thou art only an ignoramus,
Who nothing of theology knows,
And all his life long breadless goes.

6. "Thy mother and I were often expressing
Our hopes that thou wouldst be one day a blessing
To our old age, but oh, what a cuss
Thou hast proved, thou vile Hieronimus!
7. "All that thou usedst to write of thy doing,
How many studies thou wast pursuing,
And that none in diligence equalled thee,—
Was a pack of lies, as I now can see.
8. "And all that was said of thy *privatissimo*
And about the ten hours in collegio,
How kind the professors were to thee,
And thy solitary drinking of tea;
9. "Item, of all the various learning
With which thy head was in danger of turning,
And thy meditation late at night,
And of other similar things a sight;
10. "And about thy stomach becoming so feeble
By bending over the study table,
The whole of it, as I now find,
Was nothing at all but lies and wind.
11. "Oh that I only had listened in season
To our good Rector's counsel and reason,
Who very clearly intimated to me,
That nothing good could be made of thee.
12. "Then had been spared a vast deal of money
And many a good round patrimony,
Which thou, good-for-nothing scoundrel, I say,
At the university hast tippled away!"

13. Such, as the son stood trembling before him,
Was the sermon with which old Jobs did score him,
In fact his anger had risen so quick
That at first he came near using the stick.
14. Meanwhile as scolding and getting furious
Is generally to health injurious,
As might be imagined very well,
The good old man into a fever fell.
15. In his well days, when younger and tougher,
Severe attacks of gout he would suffer,
His Counsellor's office, good living and ease
Predisposed him to this disease.
16. But now all at once his pains forsook him,
And in the heart the Podagra took him,
And after four-and-twenty hours
He emigrated from this world of ours.
17. No end was there now to the grieving and groaning,
The house all wringing their hands and moaning,
And even Hieronimus's grief
Hardly admitted any relief.
18. The reader, I fear, would soon be yawning,
If I should describe these scenes of mourning
Any farther, I therefore cease
And leave poor old Senator Jobs in peace.

CHAPTER XXII.

How Hieronimus almost became Tutor to a young Baron.

ALTHOUGH a fortnight had now expired
Since Senator Jobs to his rest retired,
The thought of the widow Jobs still ran
At times on her dear departed man.

2. Hieronimus meanwhile took his fodder
Up to this time at the house of his mother,
And would gladly in such idleness
Have passed his entire life, I guess ;
3. Had he not received a proposition
To look about for a change in condition,
Whereby he might, in the time to come,
Get his living more properly than at home.
4. For it was all over with the expectation
Of getting, as parson, a situation,
So soon as this most heinous dunce
Had preached in each village his sermon once
5. Since now many men of great importance
Began as tutors to make their fortunes,
It entered into Hieronimus's view
That he would be tutor somewhere, too.

6. And fortune seemed not unpropitious
To Hieronimus's wishes,
For about two months from that time or three
He heard of a fine opportunity.
7. For a neighboring nobleman, (here nameless)
Advertised for a tutor of character blameless,
Who for low board and 8 guilders should come
And teach the young baron, his only son.
8. Religion, morality, five kinds of languages
Reading and writing and such like appendages,
Philosophy, physic, geography,
Arithmetic, history, poetry.
9. Drawing and dancing and riding and fencing
And other accomplishments needless to mention,
These were the branches, every one
To be taught for 8 guilders to the baron's son.
10. The Candidate Hieronimus was desired
To call on his grace, who at once inquired,
Whether the said Hieronimus was the one
Who for eight guilders would teach his son?
11. Hieronimus made answer: "Gracious
"Sir, it is exceedingly vexatious
To be a tutor, and eight guilders would be
In my opinion quite a small fee;
12. "However to do your grace a pleasure,
I will at once fall in with the measure,
And see forthwith what can be done,
In the way of instructing the baron your son."

13. And so was completed the negotiation,
When, contrary to all expectation,
One little difficulty occurred,
Which may be stated in a word :
14. Whether Hieronimus in the things desired,
Could undergo the examination required,
Which he would be obliged to teach every one,
To the young baron, the nobleman's son ?
15. But it soon appeared indisputable,
That Hieronimus was not able
Himself, to understand a single one
Of the things he was to teach the nobleman's son.
16. He therefore received a quiet dismissal
And jogged home again in an unpleasant condition
Of mind, and vented his curses upon
The tutorship and the nobleman's son.
17. His grace now right and left inquired
Whether another could possibly be hired,
Who for the sum of eight guilders would come
And teach the young baron, his only son.
18. Whether he has found it in his power
To obtain such a person up to this hour
For eight guilders, I never could learn,
In fact it's a thing wherewith I've no concern.

CHAPTER XXIII.

How Hieronimus became domestic scribe to an old gentleman, who had a chambermaid, named Amelia; and how he behaved himself well till the following chapter.

AMONG all the fundry and manifold stations
Of those who dwell in these earthly habitations,
Without any doubt we may safely call
The widow's estate the saddest of all.

2. When the man, as the head of the woman, is taken
Away, the whole body appears forsaken
By its natural protector quite,
And nothing in the house goes right.
3. The family is straitened and harassed,
The household economy greatly embarrassed,
And all is care and sorrow below
And earth becomes a vale of woe.
4. Poor Mrs. Jobs, alas! was fated
To experience the truth just stated,
For all went crab-wise in the house
And she became as poor as a church mouse.

5. Of course Hieronimus made his contribution
To the general stock of destitution,
For he lived as gentlemen of leisure do,
Ate well and drank still better, too.
6. Meanwhile such housekeeping every hour
To the worthy widow grew more and more four,'
And no one feature in it was wufs
Than the board of Hieronimus.
7. His own conviction grew daily stronger,
That things could not go on so much longer,
And he therefore began to look round
To see if another opportunity could not be found.
8. As, now, in general, the rogues and the dunces
Find in this world the very best chances,
It happened that an opening offered again
For Hieronimus with a nobleman.
9. This gentleman lived on his plantation
In a quiet and retired situation,
And there, as a genteel cavalier
Spent his large income with *plaisir*.
10. He is mentioned, in his youth, as engaging
In the seven years' war which then was waging,
But he staid in garrison mostly, it is supposed,
And his person was very little exposed.
11. But he was very glad when the war was over,
Being of peace an exceeding lover,
In fact, as a brave man and wise one, too,
He anticipated it, and withdrew.

12. And yet he loved to dwell on the story
Of the battles that had covered him with glory,
And how when once he had bravely fought
In the retreat he was almost caught.
13. For the rest he was a man of sportive habits,
Shot occasionally hares and rabbits,
Drank at dinner Burgundy of his own,
And lived without any wife alone.
14. He was, in so far, an old bachelor; however
He had in the place of a wife a clever
Chambermaid, who early and late
On his urgent necessities did wait.
15. He had gradually as he felt himself growing older,
Slipped all care of business off his shoulder,
But he had of servant men a pair
Who of all things took faithful care.
16. The one of them was a fly old foxy,
Steward of the house and general proxy,
And the other Mr. Servant, he
Was one they called a secretary.
17. The steward at the time of which we're speaking,
Still lived and found in his office good picking,
For he took good care of chest and shelf,
Thought less of his master and more of himself.
18. But the above mentioned secretary
They had had, some days before, to bury,
Because he was dead, which caused there to be
In this weighty office a vacancy.

19. Now the steward aforesaid had long been acquainted
 With Hieronimus's parents, and therefore painted,
 As a true and accomodating man,
 Hieronimus in the best colors he can.
20. And very earnestly recommended him,
 And shortly in personâ presented him
 To the damsel and the old gentleman, too,
 As the most capable secretary he knew.
21. The chambermaid found his person quite striking,
 And took to him considerable liking,
 She therefore promised, faithful and true,
 To speak the best word for him that she knew.
22. The moment she saw him she liked him very
 Much better than the previous secretary ;
 For Hieronimus was tall and strong,
 But his predecessor was lean and long.
23. Since now, the old gentleman, as we made mention,
 Honored the damsel with his principal attention,
 He with favour her application heard,
 And gave Hieronimus a nobleman's word.
24. And further to show him the greater honour,
 He invited him the first day to dinner,
 And then the old gent, when dinner was done,
 Said to him in a friendly tone :
25. His duty would consist in attending
 To the live stock and seeing what wanted mending,
 And whatever was to be written, he
 Would write as private secretary.

26. And if now this official duty
Hieronimus did faithfully execute, he
Would pay him, as a salary,
Forty rix-dollars annually.
27. "If you like these conditions (said he,) you can tarry
With me *sub titulo* house-secretary,
And I also promise you, if true,
Many additional perquisites, too ;
28. "But never go hazing, now remember,
With the damsel that takes charge of the chamber
For such proceedings will bring you into disgrace,
I tell you dryly to your face.
29. "The late, deceased house-secretary,
Was fond of damsels and young women very,
And I was very much mortified to find
That he to my maid was secretly inclined.
30. "I should, therefore, at once have cashiered him
And without ceremony cleared him
Out, but I saw he was weak and slim,
And so overlooked the fault in him.
31. "The girl, in truth, is sly and witty,
But somewhat deceitful, more's the pity,
And indeed I have often suspected that she
Was given to all sorts of monkery.
32. "I accidentally fell in with her
Five years ago, as we journeyed together ;
I was pleased with the manner of the jade,
And so I took her for my maid.

33. "For the rest, without a fingle question,
 You will hear now my concluding suggestion;
 For I tell you finally once for all,
 Have nothing to do with Amelia at all!"
34. Hieronimus must have been half-witted,
 Had he not on the conditions above submitted,
 Accepted very willingly
 The part of private secretary.
35. He therefore entered on his office right gaily,
 And saw to the cows and the fences daily,
 And many notes he daily took
 And wrote in the memorandum book.
36. For example: packets that came by the stages,
 Money paid out for servants' wages,
 The hares that were shot and the turkey cocks,
 And when they picked the old gentleman's locks.
37. Or what the house advocate got for his pleadings,
 Or the judge obtained by extra proceedings,
 Or what amount at the market was paid
 For butter and cheese in lawful trade.
38. Or what Amelia's dresses cost to cut 'em,
 Or lengthen 'em out at the top and bottom,
 Or widen 'em an inch and a-half,
 Or when the cow had had a calf.
39. Or when the worthy damsel had needed
 On account of fever to be bled,
 Or a hen had laid an egg; in short,
 All incomes and outgoes of every sort.

40. And where any letters needed inditing,
The old gentleman, who was no hand at writing,
Threw all upon Hieronimus,
Who managed it all without any fuss.
41. With the help of Talander he wrote them faster
And quicker by far than any schoolmaster,
(And spent less time about them too)
Than any schoolmaster I ever knew.
42. The rest of the time he spent at his leisure,
Ate and drank and slept at pleasure,
So that he hoped he should never give up,
As long as he lived, this secretaryship.

NOTE.

Stanza 41. *Talander* was probably some well-known author of a "Letter-writer." The original simply mentions his *Briefsteller*.

CHAPTER XXIV.

*How curious things befel the Secretary Hieronimus, and
he was driven away.*

- I**NDULGENT reader! our old forefathers
Were surely not dunces above all others,
Far oftener will it rather be found
That they had notions both wise and sound.
2. And many a time we find them giving
To us their posterity rules of good living,
And proverbs full of excellent stuff,
Which prove their wisdom plainly enough.
 3. There is one old proverb much celebrated,
And in all countries circulated,
Of which the truth and certainty lies,
Every day, before everybody's eyes.
 4. Namely: "whoever can bear in succession
A long unbroken continuation
Of nothing but prosperous days, the same
Must be gifted with a very strong frame."
 5. The truth of this old proverb, thus early,
Will in the present chapter clearly
Make itself manifest to us
In the case of Hieronimus.

6. He lived like a prince, as much a stranger
To want, as a rat in a well filled manger,
Went early to bed and slowly crept
From the feathers on which he so cosily slept.
7. There was nothing in fact to his comfort wanting;
Only one thing his mind would be haunting,—
The image of the damsel always was nigh,
Whom he daily ogled with loving eye.
8. And in her looks and her whole expression
He thought he was able to read a confession
That she with him, the secretary,
Was in love, likewise, mortally.
9. And often, too, when he looked more nearly
Into her face and studied it clearly,
It always seemed to him more and more,
As if he had seen her somewhere before.
10. Despite the old gentleman's prohibition,
He ventured now on a declaration,
And soon the knot of intimacy was tied
As close as if they were bridegroom and bride.
11. But, in the old gentleman's presence, he never
Seemed to take any notice of her whatever;
And very great care he always took
Not to excite suspicion even by a look.
12. Nevertheless, when alone together
They had many sly jokes with one another,
And there passed not seldom a friendly buff
'Twixt Amelia and Hieronimus.

13. That she meanwhile the old gentleman flattered
 Before his face, it nothing mattered
 To the secretary, who held her free
 For all this empty flattery.
14. In return for all his friendly attention
 She gave him gifts too numerous to mention,
 Shirts and handkerchiefs, gloves and rings,
 Caps and cravats and all sorts of things.
15. Once, on a time, when he had occasion
 In his regular official vocation,
 Some writing for her to despatch,
 She handed him a first-rate watch.
16. He thanked her for it very sincerely,
 But when in his hand he held it more nearly,
 He cried : "*Potz tausend Element !* I'm sure,
 I must have seen this watch before !"
17. Amelia was startled beyond expression,
 But made forthwith a candid confession,
 That the watch in question, as a present, she
 Had received from a student formerly.
18. "How things do often happen queerly,
 We see in this instance very clearly,"
 Replied Hieronimus ; "for certainly
 That student you before you see."
19. And so they both now calculated
 That five years back their acquaintance dated,
 And the watch that was stolen so long before
 The damsel made a joke of,— no more.

20. And both of them now made themselves merry,
And thought the joke was comical very,
That, after travelling so far round,
The watch should in the right hands be found,
21. For the rest there was nothing very surprising
In the chambermaid's not recognizing
In the secretary and candidate,
The student she met in that dismal state.
22. This laughable affair, however,
Made them henceforth better friends than ever,
And the flirtation they carried on
Made a perfect fool of the old gentleman.
23. Their intercourse, in its familiarity,
Soon took on an air of bold hilarity,
Till their courting and coquetting came to be
Almost undisguisedly free.
24. If the damsel in cellar or garden was working,
Mr. Secretary near somewhere was lurking,
In kitchen and chamber and all about
He still tagged after her in-doors and out.
25. And even at night, when she was not fussing
About the old man, (for he needed much nursing),
Hieronimus sometimes went
On a visit to her apartment.
26. Also, in writing and noting, to guide him
Amelia constantly sat beside him,
In fact, whether sitting or standing, she
Was at his side incessantly.

27. With many a tit-bit of dainty favour
 From the old man's table she did him favour,
 And was there calve's-head or the like of that,
 He always got the marrow and fat.
28. And sometimes she would bring him, on Sunday,
 Privately, from the cellar, a flask of Burgundy,
 Which Hieronimus would drink
 At a couple of fwigs, and never wink.
29. Thus did the days of the house secretary,
 Hieronimus, glide away, quite merry,
 No reverend prelate could possibly
 Lead a more jolly life than he.
30. But it soon appeared that this situation
 Of things could not be of long duration,
 For gradually the transaction began
 To grow more clear to the old gentleman.
31. And instead of laughing, in such cafes,
 He now began to make sour faces,
 And he gave them to understand clearly enough,
 That he would not have any more of this stuff.
32. And he added, in a manner not very
 Gentle, to Mr. Secretary,
 If he did not all intercourse with Amelia quit,
 His walking-ticket he soon would get.
33. Hieronimus assured him on his honour,
 He had not behaved improperly in any manner,
 And he would not, if his Highness preferred,
 Exchange with Amelia another word.

34. "Well! in that case, you may tarry
As long as you please, and be secretary
All your life to me," replied
The old gentleman, somewhat mollified.
35. Although now, from this time Hieronimus
Carried on his tricks as flyly as any mouse,
With the damsel, by day and night,
And did more diligently than ever write;
36. Nevertheless, not many days after,
Occurred an adventure too serious for laughter,
When the old gentleman who, it seems,
Was troubled with uncomfortable dreams,
37. Rosé and went up, as was his custom,
To call Amelia who nursed him,
That the damsel by her friendliness
Might drive away his sleeplessness,
38. Lo and behold! a mighty wonder!
For there, by some unexpected blunder,
Whom should he, to his amazement, see,
But Hieronimus, the secretary!
39. *Himmel! tausend Element! potz donner!*
The old gentleman swore in some such manner,
And from the house, the self same night,
Hieronimus was forced to take flight.
40. No begging nor praying the matter mended;
The thing was done and there it ended,
And the old man's wrath was such that the maid
Began herself to be afraid.

41. Her cunning flatteries, however,
Did once again for this time save her,
But the unlucky candidate
Was past all help, 'twas now too late.
-

NOTE.

Stanza 18. The reader is requested to observe that in the first line *how* qualifies *queerly*.

CHAPTER XXV.

*How Hieronimus entered into the service of a pious lady,
who was a spiritual sister, and had unworthy designs
upon him, and how he ran away from her.*

THE shirts, rings and other paraphernalia
Which Hieronimus had received from Amelia
Served for some time to keep him free
From the actual clutches of poverty.

2. But when, at last, he had sold and squandered
All the good damsel had to him tendered,
Nolens volens, now must he,
To escape from hunger and misery,
3. And not to die of absolute starvation,
Begin to look round for a new occupation,
And his first thought, of course, was to try to find
Some place of service to suit his mind.
4. Now, at a solitary castle there resided
A widowed lady who was a decided
Spiritual sister, as we say,
She was old and her hair already gray.

5. To praying and singing she therefore had taken
And other things which as spiritual we reckon,
And so a number of years had spent
And gained the name of a very great saint.
6. Not the least shadow of sin could venture
Among her little household to enter,
She called them together twice a day
Into her parlor to sing and pray.
7. She punished them for the smallest violations
Of duty by amiably stinting their rations,
She thought much of fasts and psalmody
And a glass of brandy occasionally.
8. At the same time, and with reason, thinking
That social was better than solitary drinking,
And also that in society
One could sing with greater energy,
9. She had for some time been desiring,
And all the country round inquiring,
To find some holy man, that he
Might give her his spiritual company.
10. Already had many a godly loafer
Presented himself and made his offer,
To live with her and praise and pray
In the most approved and orthodox way.
11. But no one as yet had had attraction
Enough to give her satisfaction,
For this one seemed to her too old,
The other by far too young, he was told;

12. One was too meagre, another too weakly,
One was a cripple or otherwise sickly,
Another was deaf or dumb or blind,
Another a worlding, not at all to her mind.
13. Hieronimus finally ventured therefore
His services to the dame to offer,
As spiritual assistant, and lo and behold!
So soon as she saw him, his fortune was told.
14. For he was neither meagre nor weakly,
Deaf nor dumb nor blind nor sickly,
Neither too young nor yet too old,
And his person was not uncomely to behold.
15. His semi-clerical peruke and garment
Took the old lady's eye in a moment,
And he assured her faithfully
That he was no worlding, no, not he.
16. And so she gave him an invitation
To make to-day his first probation,
And he joined with real, holy glee
The pious psalmody after tea.
17. He also read with edification
A family sermon to the congregation,
And officiated throughout with such grace,
That the dame commended him to his face.
18. Her spiritual zeal grew daily more fervent
Through the labors of this her godly servant,
And every day a holier flame
Burned in her spiritual frame.

19. She kept the pious young man beside her
 In all her actions to counsel and guide her,
 And thus Hieronimus soon became
 A very great favorite of the dame.
20. If, once in a while, some deviation
 Occurred, unworthy of his vocation,
 She overlooked such things and would call
 Them human frailties—that was all.
21. She would also grant him dispensations
 From the penalties fixed for such occasions,
 And at such times the daintiest fare
 By way of solace, fell to his share.
22. Champagne and chocolate and coffee,
 And almond milk and such rich stuff, he
 Got for his beverage every day,
 And lived in an extra-luxurious way.
23. He found, in a word, a high enjoyment
 In pursuing such a holy employment,—
 Eating and drinking all day long,
 With, occasionally, a sermon or song.
24. The worst thing was that the pious matron
 Kept him tied to the strings of her apron,
 For she really seemed to think that he
 Was the beau ideal of piety.
25. And when on the sofa he sat beside her,
 And read some book that edified her,
 She would stroke her pious sheep and say:
 Bravo! in a very rapturous way.

26. And when they sang a holy measure
Together, she could not contain her pleasure,
She would throw her arm around his neck,
And sing, as if her heart would break.
27. This very familiar style of action,
At last revealed the whole transaction
To Hieronimus, that the old dame
At something more than singing did aim.
28. With such a weighty discovery before him,
A violent fit of alarm came o'er him,
And when on the mighty danger he thought
He was almost paralysed on the spot.
29. When once recovered from his consternation,
He thought, with many a tender sensation,
Of the bliss he had tasted formerly
In the fair Amelia's company.
30. She was young and faultless and charming,
This one, on the contrary, almost alarming,
Gray and toothless and yellow of skin,
Lean and haggard and ugly as sin.
31. He should, perhaps, have tutored his fancies
And, adapted himself to circumstances,
And, blinking at all her foibles and flaws,
Taken the old lady as she was;
32. But this did not suit his disposition,
So he came away without asking dismissal,
And left the old lady alone, alas!
With her hymn-book and her brandy-glass.

CHAPTER XXVI.

How Hieronimus had a bad and a good adventure, and how, for once in his life, he achieved a wise action.

HIERONIMUS, before he decided
To leave the old widow, had provided
A bag of money, deducting the same
From the private treasury of the dame.

2. For he argued that all his finging and praying,
And holy things in sermons saying,
And receiving the old lady's careffes, too,
Made a fair compensation no more than his due.
3. And now with the fruits of this handsome pillage
He travelled about from city to village,
And as in this way he wandered round
Full many a jolly landlord he found.
4. And when he found in one place or another
Fine quarters and sometimes a merry brother,
Or a hostess agreeable in her ways,
He commonly tarried several days.
5. It happened, however, on one occasion,
That as he thus wandered for recreation,
Just as the shades of evening fell
He stopped at quite a large hotel.

6. It was the best tavern in all Swabia,
No better could be found in the wilds of Arabia;
The host was an honest man in his talk
And loved to write with double chalk.
7. Now that same day, it did befall so,
That two strange guests had arrived there also,
Who, Hieronimus did guess,
Were travelling merchants, by their dress.
8. In one of them, at the very first entrance,
He would almost have seen an old acquaintance,
Had not a great plaster on the place,
Disguised about one-half of his face.
9. Meanwhile the two gentlemen grew quite merry,
And invited Hieronimus to partake of their sherry,
And very soon a friendship grew
Between Hieronimus and the two.
10. For the man who had on his face the plaster,
Was, in telling stories, a very great master,
Some he made up and others were true;
Hieronimus laughed till he was almost blue.
11. Hieronimus, in his turn, freely related
All his adventures and communicated
How very near he recently came
To being decoyed by a widowed dame.
12. There followed, of course, a peal of laughter,
And Hieronimus, thereafter,
Proceeded to make the story whole
By telling about the money he stole.

13. Now when the day, in a manner so cheery,
Had come to a close, Hieronimus, weary
And drunk with wine and laughter, said
Good night and staggered off to bed.
14. But hardly had he sunk to slumber,
When the two gentlemen proceeded to his chamber,
Where they ingeniously did hook
The money, and their departure took.
15. Hieronimus, waking late in the morning,
And having of mischief not the least warning,
Found, as he put his pantaloons on
His pocket empty, the money-bag gone.
16. At first he could not believe the transaction
A real case for a legal action,
He thought it only a piece of fun
Which the two merry merchants had done.
17. But when the host, interrogated
Respecting them, communicated
That the two gentlemen went away
Quickly at an early hour of the day ;—
18. Then did he begin to make lamentations
And outcries great, and his impatience
Grew to such a pitch that the hair
On his head could be kept with difficulty there.
19. His crying and groaning in such a fashion,
Soon stirred the worthy host to compassion,
Who agreed to take only his coat in lieu
Of the money that for board was due.

20. And also the advice imparted
That it were well now, if he started,
"For without the ready cash," said he,
"No stranger can find quarters with me."
21. Hieronimus's example teaches how odd is,
In this world, the caprice of the bandaged goddess,
And how, in a manner unlooked for and strange,
The luck of mortals will often change.
22. Last evening the thought of poverty scorning,
Called "Sir" by the landlord, and lo! this morning,
By the same worthy landlord hurled
Coatless and penniless out into the world.
23. He could now, as he resumed his wandering,
On his sad estate at leisure be pondering,
And at first he almost wished himself back
(At the spiritual sister's, alack!)
24. But when he thought of her caresses,
And called up her image in memory's recesses,
Such a real horror came over him then,
That he did not care to go back again.
25. He had now, for some days, contrived to banish
His hunger with an acorn or turnip or radish,
And like a knight errant had managed to stay
His nature in many a pitiful way.
26. But now, as when the need is highest,
The consolation is apt to be nighest,
So was it in poor Hieronimus's case
The help he required was coming apace.

27. For as, on the fourth afternoon, he was lying
 In a wood by the roadside, he heard a crying
 Very loud and piteous indeed,
 Which from near by did seem to proceed.
28. He soon arrived at the situation
 Whence he had heard the lamentation,
 And there, to his very great surprise,
 A harrowing spectacle met his eyes:
29. A carriage with four horses stopping ;
 A bearded coachman powerless dropping ;
 There a young lady, who shrieked and cried,
 And ran despairing from side to side.
30. And here a richly dressed gentleman, striving
 To keep off two ruffians who at him were driving,
 And who were seeking with might and main,
 To give him his *quietus*, 'twas plain.
31. My hero recognized at some distance,
 The *quasi* merchants, his tavern acquaintance,
 He therefore lifted his stick, and flew
 At once, like a fury, upon the two.
32. "Villains! where is my bag of money?"
 He cried, and darting upon one, he
 Shattered his skull so that it couldn't be trepanned
 And stretched the robber dead on the sand.
33. With equally vigorous blows he darted
 At t'other robber, who straightway started,
 Finding himself outmatched in fight,
 And proceeded to seek his safety in flight.

34. Hieronimus would, without hesitating,
Have chased the highwayman who was retreating,
But the fellow vanished like the wind,
And left Hieronimus far behind.
35. And now I can scarcely describe the behaviour
Of the gentleman and lady to their saviour,
When, the imminent peril being o'er,
They felt that they could breathe once more.
36. They thanked him, both of them, very sincerely,
And the pretty girl would have kissed him nearly,
If (to say the truth) she had not feared
His unwashed face and his grisly beard.
37. No eulogy can be invented
Which was not by them to him presented,
For the dear Hieronimus, dirty and rough
Was their deliverer, clearly enough.
38. He must go home with them, they insisted,
With a friendliness that could not be resisted,
To their manor-house, where he should be
Richly rewarded for his chivalry.
39. In his present impoverished circumstances
He received with open arms these advances,
And, without further ceremony, thought best
At once to comply with their request.
40. Lifting the coachman they conveyed him
To the carriage in which they laid him,
And, donning the dead highwayman's coat,
Up on the box Hieronimus got.

41. Before, however, Hieronimus mounted,
 He found, with a pleasure not to be recounted,
 His bag and almost all the money, too,
 In the dead highwayman's portmanteau.
42. But the strangest thing in all the history
 Was, touching the dead man's face, a mystery;
 There was no longer any plaster there,
 And when Hieronimus scanned it with care,
43. He was not long in taking knowledge
 Of a gentleman who, on his journey to college,
 Once swindled him by hook and by crook,
 Herr von Hogier of the great peruke.
44. And so this adventure terminated
 In a way that our hero greatly elated,
 He mounted the coach-box and off he rolled,
 Like the knight of the sorrowful figure of old.
45. And now ere I bring this chapter to a termination,
 I inform the readers of the present narration,
 That this deed is the only honorable one
 That Hieronimus has hitherto done.

CHAPTER XXVII.

How Hieronimus was glad to get to Ohnewitz, and how he became schoolmaster there, in a school of little boys and girls.



THAT gentleman and the young lady
Whom Hieronimus rescued, as mentioned already,
Sustained the relation of bridegroom and bride
And the knot had been very recently tied.

2. The gentleman had in his jurisdiction
Of castles and villages quite a collection,
But the principal one of his private seats
Was in the small village of Ohnewitz.
3. To give his lady a gratification
He often made journeys of recreation,
For on very intimate terms he stood
With every body in his neighborhood.
4. He had just been to visit a neighboring noble
At the time he met the aforefaid trouble,
'Twas on his journey home from the same,
That the two highwaymen upon him came.
5. They immediately knocked the driver over,
So that they thought he would never recover ;
And with violence then demanded next,
His money and other personal effects.
6. They also from the carriage hauled him,
And would to death have probably mauled him,
When, at the shrieks of the agonized dame,
Hieronimus, as we said, to the rescue came.
7. They related, on the way, this story
To their deliverer, who in his glory
Drove away as merrily now
As the recent terror would allow.
8. Hieronimus likewise recounted
How he by the fates had been thus far tormented,
And as, in this way time, quickly flits,
They came, like lightning, to Ohnewitz.

9. Here they soon forgot all sorrow,
And lived without a thought of the morrow,
And made all sorts of friendly fufs
In honor to Hieronimus.
10. New clothes, wine, tobacco and costly dishes,
Calculated to gratify the most fastidious wishes,
Were furnished, enough and superfluous,
At the service of Hieronimus.
11. After several weeks had been spent in this manner,
The gentleman did Hieronimus the honour,
To promise that he, for his future support,
Would make provision in the very best sort.
12. Now just at this time an event transpired,
Just what Hieronimus would have desired,
And he saw in the coincidence
The hand of a special Providence.
13. Namely : the Ohnewitz parish possesses
A school for little masters and misses,
Of which the collation unto the lord,
As village patron, the laws did accord.
14. To study the A, B, C, and the primer,
And learn to read and spell, and the grammar,
These branches constituted the whole
Of the studies pursued at the aforefaid school.
15. All opportunities of further learning
The patron removed, with a wise discerning,
For whenever a peasant comes to be learned,
At once he grows proud and his brain is turned.

16. Yes, experience teaches us plainly,
 That what the peasant requires mainly
 Is to understand his almanack, and
 To have his catechism at his tongue's end.
17. Whenever above this limit he rises,
 His labour he commonly despises,
 And a miserable confusion ensues
 With the farming proceeds and revenues.
18. Besides a fixum of thirty dollars, the office
 Brought the teacher additional profits
 In eggs and butter and turkeys and geese
 And other perquisites similar to these.
19. And then, at the new year's congratulation,
 He went to his lordship's house to collation,
 And also received, for attending there,
 Of presents a proportionate share.
20. Now the schoolmaster happened, fortunately,
 To have left this world his blessing lately,
 And the parish was thoughtfully looking round
 To see where a new one might be found.
21. So soon as the patron got information
 Of this, he tendered the situation
 To Hieronimus, who straightway
 Entered on the office without delay.
22. At first, it is true, the life of a teacher
 Had not for him one attractive feature,
 For he much more account of idleness made
 Than of such a thankless and tedious trade.

23. However, as always, when school was over,
He spent his time at the castle in clover,
Eating and drinking, after awhile
Hieronimus concluded to reconcile
24. Himself to his present situation,
And attend to its duties with renewed application,
That he might be able to keep the place
All his life till the end of his days.
25. He also thought, in many a matter,
To introduce some change for the better ;
For he found that many faults had crept
Into the school, as heretofore kept.
26. In fact he began, after long deliberation,
To make here and there a reformation,
Which did not, however, turn out very well,
As we to the reader shall shortly tell.

NOTE.

Heading: *Ohnewism* means literally *witless*.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

*How Hieronimus became an Author, and how he edited
a new A, B, C,-book, and how he was grievously
complained of for it by the Boors to his Lordship.*



AT the very first entrance on his administration
Hieronimus found with extremest vexation,
That the A, B, C-book hitherto used
The minds of the children somewhat confused.

2. The boys and girls under his supervision
Had used heretofore the Ballhorn edition,
In which Hieronimus soon became aware
Of sundry errors here and there.
3. So, after considerable counsel taking
With himself, he determined upon making
A speedy new edition of it
Under the following title, to wit :
 4. *A new, enlarged and amended edition
Of the A, B, C-book, under the supervision
Of the Author, Hieronimus
Jobs, Theologiae Candidatus.*
5. To the letters with which we're all acquainted,
And which in the alphabet are presented,
He added also the f f t,
Likewise the sch and sp.
6. The spurs of the cock, at the end, who engages
The attention of children of the lower ages,
He omitted with great propriety
From his bran-new book of A, B, C
7. He added, however, for the gratification
Of the juvenile candidates for education,
A little nest with a great egg,
Beside the spurless rooster's leg.
8. This book had scarcely entered their presence,
When it was reviewed by the Ohnewitz peasants,
And the very first occasion gave
For an altercation both fierce and grave.

9. For none of the changes made, whatever,
Found with the critics any favour,
But they every one of them, to a man,
Regarded it as a highly dangerous plan.
10. It could not escape the obtusest vision,
That the author of this new-fangled edition,
Made it exceedingly manifest,
He was with a passion for authorship possessed.
11. As, when, in sultry summer weather,
Tempest-brewing vapors muster together,
Before the crashing thunder leaps,
A low murmur ordinarily creeps,
12. So here, at first, in every direction
Was heard a low buzz of disaffection,
And soon the thunderbolt came down
On Hieronimus's crown.
13. The Ohnewitzers by words and dealings
Left him no doubt of the state of their feelings,
But he, defying their utmost rage,
Fell back on his Grace's patronage.
14. The Ohnewitzers would show him, however,
That they did not mean to be silent forever:
For every day they did prefer
Some new grievance against the schoolmaster.
15. They therefore, at last, in town meeting collected,
And the sexton was unanimously directed
To draw up a complaint in the following tone:
"High-well-born patron! be it known

16. "Unto your worship by these presents,—
That we the assembled Ohnewitz peasants
Do take with submission the liberty
To complain of your schoolmaster to thee.
17. "Inasmuch as the same has tried our patience
By introducing sundry innovations,
All under the absurd pretext
Of remedying existing defects.
18. "And has not behaved in the matter, neither,
As a worthy schoolmaster should, but rather,
Given us peasants, whom he ought to lead,
A very bad example indeed.
19. "And, only the principal points to mention
Of the grievances to which we would call attention,
Pro primo and in the first place, he
Has undertaken arbitrarily
20. "To make a new A, B, C, omitting
The spurs of the cock, which is not befitting,
For the spurs, assuredly, all will agree
An essential part of the cock to be.
21. "He also discourages learning, however,
By making the alphabet longer then ever:
For sp, sch, and fft
Have surely no business in the A, B, C.
22. "Further, though cocks are never known to
Lay hen's eggs in nests, as hens are wont to,
Nevertheless he has placed one by the cock's leg,
Just as if the cock had laid the egg.

23. "Now things like these are very bewilderin',
And calculated to mislead the minds of the children,
And a new A, B, C-book, anyhow,
Is an innovation we cannot allow.
24. "*Pro secundo*: we would not fail to mention-
(That the afs's head is an ancient invention,)
Which every child that resists the rules
Has to wear, as a punishment, in our schools.
25. "Now, sorely as a sensitive heart is affected
When to this punishment it is subjected,
Still most of the children make a jest
Of wearing the afs's head down to their breast.
26. "Herr Jobs, however, is not contented
With this, but has to the head appended
Neck, body, legs and tail and all
And so you have now the afs in full.
27. "How the children cry and yell when the teacher
Compels them to wear the entire creature,
And the figure they cut when dressed up so,
Can be scarcely imagined. *Pro tertio*:
28. "Herr Jobs, in addition to the usual flogging,
Doth barbarously box their ears, imperilling
The health of the pupils, and already some
In consequence have quite deaf become.
29. "*Pro quarto*: the poorer children more than any
Are to be pitied for their cudgellings many,
For, out of respect to persons, they
Get a double portion every day.

30. "*Pro quinto*: he is in the habit of searchin'
The pockets of every sweet-toothed urchin,
And puts the apples and nuts on the shelf,
And after school he eats them himself.
31. "*Pro sexto*: his conduct in general society
Is chargeable with much impropriety,
For he leads, they say, quite too free a life
With Schulze the boarding-house keeper's wife.
32. "He visits the village tavern daily
And in heated drinks indulges freely,
And many a time has wafted away
Half of the night with Schulze in play.
33. "There are many other complaints, in addition,
Which we would prefer with profound submission;
For very many *gravamina*,
Besides those already mentioned, there are,
34. "Which at present, however, we forbear stating,
Contenting ourselves with supplicating:
That you would be pleased, most gracious Sir!
To give us another schoolmaster.
35. "In hope whereof we beg to tarry
Your Grace's subjects most exemplary.
Given in the village of Ohnewitz.
Etc., etc., etc., etc., etc., etc."

CHAPTER XXIX.

How the disaffected peasants of Ohnewitz received a gracious resolution, and how they were advised to keep silence, and how they were threatened with the dark hole. All in chancery style.

THE meeting appointed a deputation
Of two to deliver the petition
To his highness, the patron ; and from the same
The following resolution came :

2. "*We have learned with great dissatisfaction,*
From the statement of your recent action,
What grievances you do prefer
Against your worthy schoolmaster.
3. "*Though, now, it gives us great displeasure*
To see you resort to such a measure ;
We have considered, nevertheless,
The breadth and length of your grievances.
4. "*We cannot, however, up to date discover*
Anything to make such a fuss over,
And the prosecution, we decide,
Is altogether unjustified.

5. " 'Tis very true, as has been said, he
Has introduced in his school already
A new book of A, B, C, which he
Dedicates to ourselves submissively.
6. " It is also clear that, in this edition,
He has made here and there an addition or omission,
It is not however so clear to us,
How this can be so injurious.
7. " 'Tis true, by an oversight of the engraver,
The cock has lost his spurs; however,
One can very easily in the next
Edition remedy such mistakes.
8. " Our modern reviewers seldom take notice
Of such a trifle in books as that is,
But the gentlemen kindly overlook
Such little faults in a new book.
9. " And as regards the interpolations,
They are found in all the early editions;
At least sch, ffit, and sp,
As variations, may be suffered to be.
10. " That the cock with an egg should be attended,
Seems indeed less capable of being defended,
Yet there's no necessity *propter hoc*
To take the egg away from the cock.
11. " For from the egg to draw the conclusion
That the cock had laid it, were great confusion
In conscience and reason; it proves in fact
No more than the titles to men's names tacked.

12. "And then besides we might have alluded,
To cases where cockerels over eggs have brooded,
In hoc casu, undoubtedly,
The cock was a capon properly.
13. "When you propose as the second of the abuses,
That Mr. Jobs a whole ass introduces;
We think therein he commits no offence,
But conducts himself as a man of sense.
14. "For he means by this no more, nor less neither,
Than that you and your children both together,
Old and young and great and small,
Are perfect asses incarnate all.
15. "*Pro tertio*: the ear-boxing so bewilderin',
Which has already made deaf some children—
We hold it very much amiss
To inflict such punishment as this.
16. "The grievance you have *pro quarto* propounded
We hold to be in so far well grounded;
For no judge nor schoolmaster rightfully can
Respect the person of any man.
17. "But for poor no less than rich 'tis expedient
That they should be punished when disobedient,
And punishment should always be
Administered impartially.
18. "When the right of search he exercises,
And fruit in the children's pockets surprises,
He upholds *pro quinto* the very good rule:
Children should not be munching in school!

19. "And as their tender stomachs, fans question,
Find apples and nuts of hard digestion,
Here also the schoolmaster's plan is good,
To devour, himself, such forbidden food.
20. "*Pro sexto*, as to your insinuation
Touching Schulze's wife's reputation,
Item, the tavern, drinking and dice,
All this in Herr Jobs were a shocking vice.
21. "It is our gracious pleasure, however,
That such things be buried in silence forever,
And who so shall name them again, by my foul!
Shall be punished with two days in the hole.
22. "For the rest, the complaints you have delated
Shall be hereafter more thoroughly investigated,
When from our contemplated tour
We are happily returned once more.
23. "Till then we command you to cease your gabble,
Nor longer in these grave matters dabble.
Given at our residence etc., etc.
"Resolution for the Peasants of Ohnewitz."

CHAPTER XXX.

How, one Wednesday, a riot broke out at Ohnewitz, and all sorts of signs and wonders preceded it, and how Herr Hieronimus was driven away with cudgels, &c.

IT may well be conceived that this resolution
Threw the whole village into the greatest confusion,
In fact there arose on all sides a hum
Among the peasants, both mighty and grum.

2. For now it was clearly manifested
That Jobs was by the patron assisted,
And that justice could no longer have course,
And they swore to avenge themselves by force.
3. In this weighty crisis they often came together
To consult in the tavern with one another,
And with beer and tobacco considered there
How they could best approach the affair.
4. They first determined, with a sweeping
Unanimity, on keeping
Their children at home, and not one of all
In fact went to school again, great or small.

5. But the wisest of them advised, with reason,
To lie in wait for a favorable season,
For then, when came the fitting hour,
They could all arise at once in their power.
6. They all gave in at once their adhesion
To such a sensible proposition,
And so they fixed upon a day
When the patron should happen to be away.
7. 'Tis true these arrangements were all to lie sleeping,
In every bosom's secret keeping
Till the terrible moon should be ushered in
When the disturbance was to begin.
8. But before these great events had being,
Signs and wonders had men been seeing,
As on the eve of important events
Men commonly witness premonitory portents.
9. For example, a short time before, at the hour
Of midnight, a very great owl on the tower
Of the church had been heard to utter a cry
Frightful and loud to the inky sky.
10. Likewise had one of the Ohnewitz people
Coming from the inn, heard a tolling in the steeple;
Also the very old chimney fell down
On the school-house roof with an awful sound.
11. Likewise the sexton's cow give birth to
The longest eared calf perhaps on earth too;
Likewise many dogs ran howling round
Through the village with a horrible sound.



12. *Ignes fatui* were seen in many places,
And sometimes by night strange forms and faces ;
Likewise at noonday it came to pass,
A leg was broke of the miller's ass.
13. All this appeared the prefiguration
Of some impending revelation ;
But no one noticed the danger until
The prophecies did themselves fulfil.
14. Now it was exactly on Wednesday morning,
That the riot broke out without any warning,
When, at eight precisely, every boor
Was seen to issue from his door.

15. It was dreadful to think on what might happen,
For every one was armed with a weapon,
And forth the confederates all swarmed,
With clubs and flails in great numbers armed.
16. All was now astir in the village,
One would have prophesied murder and pillage,
And every dog and rooster now
Began at once to bark and crow.
17. On the village common soon collected
The mighty mass of the disaffected,
And in procession proceeded thence
Straight to the schoolmaster's residence.
18. Many children came thronging after
On both sides, full of joy and laughter,
To think that they would be free to-day
And the bad schoolmaster sent away.
19. Herr Jobs in his bed was lying quiet,
Never once dreaming of any riot,
When all on a sudden the whole swarm
Broke in upon him with a great alarm.
20. He opened his eyes in consternation,
And vehement was his agitation,
As now for the first time he did mark
The treason that had been brewing in the dark.
21. They fell upon him with precipitation,
Leaving him small time for hesitation;
Only, in consideration of the present distress,
They gave him leave to put on his dress :

22. Then advised him to leave Ohnewitz behind him,
And never again let one of them find him;
 They added likewise many a scoff,
 And cudgelled and pelted our hero off.
23. And so this action was completed
 And the expedition successfully treated,
 And with a loud ju! hu! ju! hu!
 All to the tavern now withdrew.
24. And every one swore with a terrible clatter,
 That he had done the best in the matter,
 And in drinking brandy determined that he
 The greatest hero of all would be.
25. There were some, however, had no satisfaction,
 But only remorse for the whole transaction,
 And they fully expected to find their reward
 In the dark hole, at the return of their lord.

NOTE.

Stanza 9. So in Virgil (Aen. IV. 462,) among the portents that preceded the death of Dido:

*"Solaque culminibus ferali carmine bubo
Sæpe queri, et longas in fletum ducere voces."*

—"With a boding note

The solitary screech-owl strains her throat,
And on a chimney's top or turret's height,
With songs obscene disturbs the silence of the night."

Dryden.

CHAPTER XXXI.

How Hieronimus in his flight to Bavaria and a new adventure, in meeting his beloved Amelia on the stage at the theatre. Very pleasant to read.

AS the fox, when he leaves the hounds behind him
And flies where they no more can find him,
Is glad that only a mouthful of hair
He has had to lose, which he well could spare,—

2. So Hieronimus, in his greatest tribulation,
Took to himself the same consolation,
And was very glad, upon his soul,
To have 'scaped the boors with a skin whole.
3. 'Tis true he had learned, in his sudden departure
From Ohnewitz, something he had to smart for,
How very sour and bitter and hard
Was a poor schoolmaster's reward.
4. He also made a vow that he never
Would publish again any books whatever,
For his flogging and flight, he had to own,
Were owing to the authorship-mania alone.

5. Meanwhile as his patron (we've stated already,
Was gone on a tour to Bavaria with his lady;
Hieronimus determined to go there to him,
For refuge from the wrath of the peasants so grim.
6. The journey took no great time to plan it,
In fact he no sooner resolved than began it;
But soon, before he was far on his way,
A new adventure caused his delay.
7. For contrary to all expectation
His plans met a sudden perturbation,
Soon after he reached a great city, where
He intended to rest a day or two there.
8. Here, to console and divert himself solely
And drive away care and melancholy,
It came into his head one day,
That he that evening would go to the play.
9. He soon perceived among the actresses,
Of beautiful faces and splendid dresses,
One who in face, voice, form and hair,
Was the image of his Amelia fair.
10. Heavens! what rapture his heart did fire,
That he should so unexpectedly spy her!
The entire pit was almost thrown
Into confusion by this fact alone.
11. And hardly had she her performance ended,
When into the green-room he instantly bounded,
And now there was many a joyful buff
'Twixt her and her dear Hieronimus.

12. Both were curious to hear from each other,
What singular fortune thus brought them together;
Hieronimus therefore was glad enough,
With her to snug quarters to hurry off.
13. Then and there did Amelia get her first information
Of the wonders set down in the previous narration,
As having transpired since the memorable night,
When the old gent drove him forth in such plight.
14. And of his adventures with the spiritual lady,
And the dishonorable attempt she made, he
Told, and how, subsequently, the whole
Of his money by night in a tavern was stole.
15. And how, in the wood he despatched a villain,
And rescued a nobleman whom he was killin',
And became by one of his lucky hits,
A schoolmaster at Ohnewitz.
16. And his subsequent trials and tribulation,
And how he now against all expectation,
Had found her in the theatre here,
All this he copiously poured in her ear.
17. Hieronimus, now, in his turn, desired
To hear what in her experience had transpired,
And the fair one proceeded to relate,
As follows, her history up to date.

CHAPTER XXXII.

How the damsel Amelia tells Hieronimus the story of her life. A very long chapter, because the person speaking is a female. Exactly one hundred verses.



“**A**MELIA Riraps my proper name is:
The place where into the world I came, is
The celebrated town of A. A.
There I first saw the light of day.

2. "My father was an advocate, had many cafes
Both there and in the neighboring places,
For he knew the *jura* thoroughly
And understood chicanery.
3. "The most complicated cafes he would take'em
And still more complicated make'em,
And many an art and trick he knew
For spinning out short cafes, too.
4. "His ingenuity many a clever
Rogue from the gallows did deliver;
And, by recommending the crime
Of perjury just in the nick of time,
5. "He brought off many a cheat inglorious,
Over his honorable opponent victorious,
Relieved many a one of sore distress
And many a poor devil of his bread, I guess.
6. "He hated peace and compromising,
Much rather, in every case, advising,
However trifling the matter might be,
Recourse to law and chicanery.
7. "He kept his clients in a round of dances
Through all possible legal *instances*,
And kept them appealing, on and on,
Until their very last penny was gone.
8. "For the rest, he served to the best of his science
And fidelity the clients who placed on him reliance,
Yet, now and then, for variety's sake,
From the opposite party a bribe would take.

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9. "Of a tolerable property he thus got possession ;
What to others was a curse, was to him a blessing,
And when to wrangling and quarrelling fell,
He took the oyster and gave each a shell.
10. "My blessed mother was the daughter
Of a wealthy farmer of the highest order,
Who litigated to such a degree
That he ruined himself and his property.
11. "My father had served him as advocate duly
And given him counsel faithfully and truly,
And so at length, he got for his pay
The farmer's pretty daughter one day.
12. "She had already rejected many
Who offered their hands in matrimony,
At the time when her father was yet well off
And had property enough.
13. "But as the incomes began to grow fewer,
No one cared any longer to woo her ;
For the prettiest penniless face that goes
Will never tempt the men to propose.
14. "She managed after awhile, however,
To catch my father, for she was clever,
And grounded to the last degree
In all the arts of gallantry.
15. "My father took a fancy to her,
And so, as afore said, became her wooer,
And, wishing a partner of his life,
Besought her of the farmer for wife.

16. "They tasted together many enjoyments
In their wedded life, and little annoyance,
At least for the first three months or so,
While marriage was yet a new thing, you know.
17. "And then her fine face and agreeable manner
Many a private income won her,
When some rich party happened to be
Attentive to her particularly.
18. They managed to get from parties in cases
A matter or two for household uses;
For the advocate's lady always got
What the advocate, her Lord, did not.
19. "When her husband to his pleadings attended,
She meanwhile was not idle-handed,
And at such times in her apartments she
Had private hearings generally.
20. "Now though I cannot positively declare it
For a fact, and solemnly swear it,
That the above named advocate
Was my real father—at any rate
21. "I never in my life have heard the suggestion
That he so much as raised a question,
When, after about a year, may be,
My mother was delivered of me.
22. "The earlier parts of my childish history
Remain involved in the shades of mystery,
However my father and mother loved me
As their only daughter tenderly.

23. "No pains were spared on the formation
Of my manners and my education,
And they sent me to school at an early age
In the usual studies there to engage.
24. "They strictly forbade, however, the teachers
To inflict on me blows or bitter speeches,
And in everything, small as it might be,
My will was consulted carefully.
25. "When I scarcely was ten years old, my fancies
Began to devour all sorts of romances,
And already far more of love I knew
Than other maidens of eighteen do.
26. "I was happy and vain to receive addresses
From pretty young men, and sometimes caresses,
And many a practical romance
In my thirteenth year did already commence.
27. "Perhaps 'twas a fault of my education,
That I felt very early an inclination,
Which never has yet my nature left,—
A secret inclination to theft.
28. "My parents, smitten with fatal blindness,
Called it childish sport in their misplaced kindness,
And when I was caught in some wicked craft,
At their sly little daughter they only laughed.
29. "My fifteenth year was hardly over,
When I had already many a lover,
Which, with one of my not ugly face,
Could hardly fail of being the case.

30. "Some of them seemed quite presentable
In my father's eyes, at least not contemptible;
My mother, however, found in the same
Many a thing to dislike and blame.
31. "It must be a man of high position,
Equal to any in the land in condition,
Such a one or none, she said,
Who should ever her pretty daughter wed.
32. "But no man came, of high condition,
With a matrimonial proposition,
And to me it began to be tiresome
Waiting for suitors who didn't come.
33. "I therefore thought in some other manner
To save from tarnish my pride and honour,
And to meet the handsome young men I flew
To many a secret rendez-vous.
34. "Fearing there might be some miscarriage,
Which would perhaps to my future marriage
Prove an obstacle, if she
Allowed me too much liberty,
35. "My mother took it in contemplation
To lay on my love-tricks some limitation,
And by day and by night henceforward took
Notes of my every step and look.
36. "Now though its indulgence was thus prevented
The passion itself was rather augmented,
For a strictly forbidden fruit will be
Sought always the more eagerly.

37. "And the greater the hindrance the more the desire,
So did it with my inclination transpire,
For I fought every opportunity
To gratify it secretly.
38. "By night through my window often glided
Ghosts with flesh and bones provided,
Which then would usually half the night
Stay with me till morning light.
39. "And when I happened to find nothing better
I got now and then a love-letter
Of such heart-breaking tenor, as we
Daily in every romance may see.
40. "My nineteenth year had exactly ended
When I one evening a ball attended,
And there with a gentleman acquainted became
Herr Baron Von Hogier was his name."
41. Hieronimus here interrupted her talking;
"Herr Von Hogier? the thing is shocking!
His name, as well as his rank, the whole
Is familiar enough to me, by my soul!
42. "Herr Von Hogier was a sharper, I tell ye!"
"He was *all of that*," resumed Amelia,
"And, dear Hieronimus, you shall see
What took place between him and me.
43. "To Herr Von Hogier I took a great liking,
His person and manners were very striking,
His elegant dress and great peruke
At the very first moment my fancy took.

44. "He made me a very flattering proposal
Placed his hand and fortune at my disposal,
And what pleased and flattered me far more,
I was his only angel, he swore.
45. "He also said much of his goods and possessions
Situating in the land of the Hessians,
Though he now was travelling to and fro
Through the world incognito.
46. "He did also distinctly instruct me
He'd like, if I pleased, from home to abduct me,
If I at the hour appointed would stand
Ready, with money and jewels in hand.
47. "And so, by night, when nothing hindered,
The coffers and chests at home I plundered,
Pocketed what I found without fear
And took my flight with Herr Von Hogier.
48. "We made our retreat in very good order,
'Till we about reached the last Swabian border;
And during the first four days of our ride,
Did not rest twelve hours, I'm satisfied.
49. "What my parents thought, and how astounded,
To find bags empty and daughter absconded,
And how they took on and swore and stormed,
You may well imagine but cannot be informed.
50. "When we at last arrived at W,
(Not with too long a story to trouble you)
We determined to tarry some days there
To rest ourselves and get good fare.

51. "We, therefore, as we proposed to, tarried,
And lived as cosy as if we were married,
And the Herr Baron Von Hogier
Behaved very tenderly to his dear.
52. "I therefore was now, in my own opinion,
Happier than a Queen in her dominion,
And thought of nothing but joy and glee
And pleasure and festivity.
53. "But close on my heels was misfortune pursuing,
For before I could dream of anything brewing,
Suddenly and secretly one night
Herr Von Hogier, *per post*, took flight.
54. "My money, too, dear Hieronimus, (think on't,)
And my jewels were gone to the dogs in an instant,
And of the valuables the whole
Which I from my parents before had stole.
55. "I saw now, with all his cooing and billin',
That Herr Von Hogier was a settled villain,
And that matters did not rightly stand
With his estate in the Hessian land.
56. "You can therefore easily imagine
How much I took this thing in dudgeon,
For I had not dreamed that the Herr Von Hogier
Could be guilty of such tricks as this 'ere.
57. "Now left alone and by all forsaken,
I knew not what step was next to be taken,
And in desperation I looked around
To see where a refuge could be found.

58. "That I should go back again to my parents
Was an impossible occurrence,
For such a course would certainly
Have been very uncomfortable to me.
59. "However I still, as a slight consolation,
Had twenty-four ducats remaining in my possession,
Which I, in case of future distress,
Had sewed into my under-dress.
60. "These twenty-four ducats, I now bethought me,
A special fortune seems to have brought me,
For they are now, most certainly,
All my estate and property.
61. "I would not any longer tarry
But after Herr Von Hogier hurry,
And on the very self-same day,
I took the stage and drove away.
62. "For I had at the post-house received information
That he hired an extra for the occasion,
And was therefore probably by this,
In Swabia, as one might guess.
63. "If at that time I could have caught him,
To justice I at once would have brought him,
And I should certainly have then
Got all my money back again.
64. "It was, my dear, in this occupation,
That on the well remembered occasion,
I found in the stage coach a sad young man,
With whom my acquaintance then first began.

65. "For the rest, up to this time I have never
Succeeded in getting any glimpse whatever,
Nor have so much as been able to hear
Of the whereabouts of Herr Von Hogier."
66. Here Hieronimus could not help breaking
In once again on Amelia speaking :
"Potz tausend ! I know well," he said,
Where Herr Von Hogier the scamp has fled.
67. "Shortly before our acquaintance, dear Amelia !
Herr Von Hogier, the son of Belial,
Spunged me out of much money one day
At a tavern by his tricky play.
68. "This was the principal occasion
Of my melancholy situation
Of mind, which I at last forgot
When in the stage by your side I sat.
69. "Herr Von Hogier, too, was one of the couple
Of travellers, disguised as merchant people,
Who after supper at the inn
Stole my money bag and all therein.
70. "The robber too, whom I killed, (as already
Stated,) when I saved the gentleman and lady,
Was verily, by his person and face,
No other than this same scape-grace.
71. "You, therefore, now may rest contented :
His future villanies are prevented,
And I have thus most righteously
Avenged myself for his knavery."

72. Amelia replied: "Thy histories,
My dear! are full of curious mysteries,
And so remarkable each event,
It fills me with astonishment!
73. "The proverb: *what is spun however finely,*
Is fure to come to the sunlight finally,
Turns out exactly to a hair
In the case of that rascal Hogier there.
74. "But to proceed in my own narration,
At the time of our sudden separation,
On account of the watch I concluded to go on,
A while, on foot, and all alone.
75. "About that time, by good luck's providing,
An elderly gentleman came riding
Along in his carriage, and when he spied
Me trudging on by the roadside,
76. "With such a significant smile he beckoned,
That I was sitting by him in a second;
And, as my person pleased him, he
Made a proposition to me:
77. "To be his chambermaid, and aid him
Drive off the blues that did often invade him,
For he lived alone without any wife,
And was an old bachelor for life.
78. "Now it would have been dangerous, I concluded,
And certainly I should be deluded,
(So the thing began now to appear,)
To seek any further for Herr Von Hogier.

79. "And so I could not make refusal
 To the old gentleman's kind proposál,
 Although his age and his gray hair,
 Were not just such as I wished they were.
80. "So I took up with him my habitation
 And gave him effectual consolation,
 And I behaved myself to him
 As if I his lawful spouse had been.
81. "He therefore held me in high estimation,
 And gave me the whole house-administration,
 And all the servants, maids and men,
 Subjected to my regimen.
82. "I superintended cellars and presses,
 Kitchen and chamber and wardrobe and dresses,
 Saw to the washing, table and bed,
 And everything that came under that head.
83. "The keys of the chests, the plates and platters,
 And even the more valuable matters,
 The linen and silver, were to me
 Committed into custody.
84. "And from many an evening till the morrow,
 I beguiled the old gentleman of his sorrow,
 And gave his troubled spirit ease
 And ministered to his necessities.
85. "For the old gentleman would never
 Do the least thing without me whatever,
 And nothing in any department,
 Could ever take place without my consent.

86. "Of course, in addition to my compensation,
I received from him many a valuable donation,
And, to make up any deficiency,
I stole a trifle occasionally.
87. "Although now nothing external was wanting,
There was something always my spirit haunting,
And the time seemed long when I began
To live with the old gentleman.
88. "'Tis true in the course of time the house-writer
Did make my spirits a little lighter,
But, being rather sickly, he
Was not very interesting to me.
89. "I found it for my comfort necessary,
After his death to get a new secretary,
And you, my dear, just then applied
For the vacant place of the one who had died.
90. "I had for you a prepossession,
At the very first sight, I must make the confession;
And this, you see, was the reason why
I spoke in your favour so earnestly.
91. "Of all the things that between us transpired,
From the time that you were first hired
'Till the night he found you in my room,
Dear Hieronimus! you are aware, I presume.
92. "When he at that time dismissed you,
I need not say how much I missed you,
But the old man continued all the more
To give sharp hints on that very score.

93. "His anger did my spirits gall so,
That I came very near leaving also,
And it was about as much as I could do
With my careffes to bring him to.
94. "Meanwhile, from that time, his inclination
For me gave place to alienation,
And to a new young kitchen maid
All his attention henceforth he paid.
95. "And therefore to relieve the depreffion
Of spirits your abfence did occafion,
I lived thenceforward fomewhat free
With the old gentleman's lackéy.
96. "But when our intercourfe he did difcover,
All chance of reconciliation was over,
No word of excufe would he wait to hear—
I muft pack up my duds at once and clear.
97. "Being now with money tolerably provided,
To travel through the world I decided,
Till fome new opportunity
Of future fupport fhould turn up for me.
98. "While through this neighborhood I wandered
A band of players I encountered,
And at my request the company
For a new actrefs accepted me.
99. "Already fome months have I been ftaying
With them and in their fervice playing
Exceedingly well, as I'm inclined
To think, the parts to me affigned.

100. "For the rest, it gratifies me greatly
To think of the good luck that lately
Has brought together you and me
For the third time so happily."

CHAPTER XXXIII.

*How Hieronimus conceived a desire to be a play-actor,
and how he was persuaded thereto by Miss Amelia.*

HIERONIMUS exceedingly wondered
At the story told in the previous hundred
Verses, and quite forgot, from this day,
His patron and Bavaria.

2. He now determined that he never
Would leave Amelia on any account whatever,
And consequently took it in view
That he would be a comedian too.
3. When Amelia got information
Of this, she approved his determination,
And extolled her profession's dignity
In the following apology :
4. "I know from many an example;
That the stage-player's profession has ample
Claim to be called the worthiest
Of all that in the world exist.
5. "For the theatre holds up a mirror
In which one sees, even plainer and clearer
Than in the world itself, how odd
Is the mixture in life of good and bad.

6. "Now we have merry comedies,
And now we have tearful tragedies;
Now they laugh and dance and sing,
And now sigh and groan and all that sort of thing.
7. "Now comical farces excite our laughter,
Now tears and bloodshed follow right after;
Now one is poor and now he's rich:
To-day in the parlor, the next in the ditch.
8. "Now he's a peasant and now he's a ruler,
Now he's a fool and now he's a scholar;
Now he is young and now he is old,
Now he is warm and now he is cold.
9. "Now he is sober, now he is tipsy,
Now he's a capuchin, now he's a gipsy;
Now he's a beggar and now he's a baron,
Now he's a varlet and now a Herr Von.
10. "Now a renownist and now a lackey,
Now a chamberlain and now a blackey;
Now a landlord and now a guest,
Now a cowherd and now a priest.
11. "Now a pastor—a philosopher famous,
Now a sexton—an ignoramus;
Now a monarch and now a fudge,
Now a hangman and now a judge.
12. "Through these and other similar changes,
One, ever newly delighted, ranges,
And the course of the world is faithfully
Represented in all its variety.

13. "If we only play with all our powers
The parts which for the time are ours,
The audience applaud at the end
With a vehement clapping of the hand.
14. "On the contrary, when we fail or blunder,
The audience is down on us like thunder
The pit and galleries all laugh,
And hiss and yell and hoot us off."
15. "Your account, dear Amelia, I cannot deny it,
Pleases me so, I'm disposed to try it,"
Answered with a hearty bust
The new play-actor Hieronimus.
16. He was now to the manager presented
And to him by Amelia recommended,
And on the next day following he
Was enrolled in the acting company.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

How Hieronimus became a real player, and how Miss Amelia was false to him and ran off with a rich gentleman, and how he also in desperation went away.

INDULGENT reader! thou shalt now be instructed
How in his new profession Hieronimus conducted,
When once the manager had tried
His qualifications, and was satisfied.

2. Drunken students and profligate preachers,
Laughable sextons and stupid teachers,
Secretaries amorously inclined,
Poltroons and rakes, and parts of that kind.
3. All these Hieronimus played to perfection,
Because for such he'd a natural predilection,
And every time he appeared therein,
A general round of applause did win.
4. And when an author he did enact, or
Appeared in a schoolmaster's character,
Now and then one seemed to see
The author or schoolmaster bodily.

5. But when the philosopher's part he affected,
No great applause could be expected,
And in sentimental pastoral
Hieronimus was just next to nothing at all.
6. He played the fine gentleman very badly,
And, as a general thing, failed sadly
In any thing like a respectable part,
Or where there was much to be got by heart.
7. Hieronimus in this new employment
Experienced unalloyed enjoyment,
And blifsfully flew the moments away
In the arms of his queen—his Amelia.
8. He would not in his love-intoxication
Have exchanged for a king's his situation,
And all his trouble and sorrow, at last,
Seemed to be over and ended and past.
9. But how very seldom one of us listens
To the proverb "All is not gold that gliftens."
Fortune often takes a freak
And plays us an unexpected trick.
10. Hieronimus (as you'll see by what shall follow)
Was fated to find her promises hollow,
For when he least dreamed of such a thing,
The greatest joy of his life took wing
11. The sorrow by which he was now o'ertaken
The heaviest of all he did reckon,
Namely, his most dearly beloved
Amelia unfaithful proved.

12. It happened thus: on a certain occasion
A rich young gentleman of confideration,
Saw the enchanting Amelia
Perform at the theatre in a play.
13. Now as there are ninnies all the world over,
He immediately became her lover,
And Amelia was shrewd enough
Not to treat him with a rebuff.
14. In reading her history we easily discover
That she had a great inclination, moreover,
(Because she was a woman, you see)
To frequent change and variety.
15. The rich young man frequent visits paid her,
For which Hieronimus did upbraid her,
His face grew black and his eyes grew red,
And in his despair he wished himself dead.
16. But that only made him less amiable
To Amelia, and daily more intolerable,
And very soon he received from her
A renunciation *formaliter*.
17. When this blight fell on his affections,
He at once dissolved his theatrical connexions,
And in extreme desperation of mind
Left the scene of disgrace behind.
18. That we here may bring the narration
Of Amelia's life to a termination,
She left with the gentleman, and it is said,
Died two years after in child-bed.

CHAPTER XXXV.

*How Hieronimus returned home to Schildburg, and how
he found there all sorts of changes.*

AND so Hieronimus was fated
To wander again, as above narrated,
And never before in his life had he
Set out so discontentedly.

2. Amelia's unlooked for infidelity
Seemed every hour a new reality,
And in his despair he could scarcely keep
Himself from taking the fatal leap.
3. 'Tis true, if I may express an opinion,
His patron in the Bavarian dominion
Would have been, in his present afflicted state,
His surest refuge from adverse fate.
4. But one who falls into tribulation
Is apt to lose his self-possession,
And at such times, 'tis the general rule,
Resigns his wits and acts the fool.
5. And so in utter desperation
Hieronimus formed the determination
That he would now his steps retrace
To Schildeburg, his native place.

6. And now as he met with no detention
On his journey homeward, worthy of mention,
He did at last, thank Heaven! arrive
At the place of his destination, alive.
7. Here, when the first salutations were over,
He very soon began to discover
That many changes had taken place
In his long absence from the place.
8. His mother, indeed, he found still living,
But in outward circumstances far from thriving,
Indeed her means were very strait,
And her bread was earned with trouble great.
9. He learned with sorrow, that one brother
Had gone the way of all flesh, another
Had opened a little Nuremberg shop,
Whereby he managed to fill his crop.
10. The eldest brother had successfully courted
The ugliest woman the country supported,
But the money which she did possess
Made him forget her ugliness.
11. He also learned that his eldest sister
Had connected herself in marriage with Mifter
Kircher, the sexton of the place,
And lived with him in pretty good case.
12. His sister Gertrude one Mr. Geier
Had wedded, and become a father by her,
But thereupon was off like the wind,
And left both bride and infant behind.

13. She tried her best to earn her living,
Her services indiscriminately giving
To young people of the richer sort,
From whom she thus received a support.
14. Another sister, they did inform him,
An old widower took to keep house and warm him,
And, in so far, appeared to be
Living with him in peace and unity.
15. And, last of all, his younger sister,
A blooming maiden, whose name was Esther,
Did still to her mother solace afford,
And get from her her daily board.
16. Now, Hieronimus's return made his mother
Very happy, and no doubt, each sister and brother,
Because they so long had not seen him, nor heard
Of his whereabouts a single word:
17. Still, at the same time, it would not do for
Him to be living at home as a loafer,
And so they began to take in view
What business there was Hieronimus might do.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

How Hieronimus became a night-watchman in Schildburg, and how his mother's dream and Mrs. Urgalindina's prophecy were fulfilled.



NOW it came to pass that the man they hired
As watchman in Schildburg had lately expired,
And so the office was lying void,
Vacant, empty and unsupplied.

2. As, now, in all states that are ordered rightly,
The watchman can't be dispensed with nightly;
The burghers consulted in the present case
On ordaining another to fill his place.
3. Now many fit subjects might have been selected
Who to taking the office would not have objected,
But, on account of his powerful voice,
Hieronimus seemed to be their choice.
4. 'Tis true some persons at first made objections
And cast upon him personal reflections,
As if Hieronimus would not do
Exactly for the office in view.
5. For the city would not, so they contended,
If he were watchman, be well defended,
For how could he who preferred to sleep
When he ought to wake, the city keep?
6. Nevertheless did Hieronimus
Very soon receive a unanimous
Invitation from the *bourgeoise*
That he would the new night-watchman be.
7. But first it would be necessary
His predecessor's widow he should marry,
For the deceased had stood very high
In the city's esteem deservedly.
8. And so, by way of compensation
To his highly afflicted widow, the corporation
To the other qualifications tacked on
The marrying of her person as a *sine qua non*.

9. Now, as her age was thirty only,
And her person certainly not very homely,
Hieronimus accepted the terms proposed
And his predecessor's widow espoused.
10. And now to old and young, as they slumbered,
The hours of night were again musically numbered,
For Hieronimus, the new
Watchman put his horn to his mouth and blew.
11. And whenever the clock was heard from the tower,
He began as follows to call the hour:
"Hark ye, gentlemen, as ye lie there still,
And hear what I to you sing and tell :
12. "The clock has just proclaimed the hour,
Twelve, one, two, three, from the old church tower;
Take care, if I may you advise,
Of fire and light and your daughters likewise !
13. "That no one may set anything on fire,
Or any other harm may transpire,
Be careful, therefore, and see to 't,
To 't, to 't, to 't, toot! toot! toot! toot!"
14. For the rest he steadily conducted
Himself as a watchman well instructed ;
Slept soundly all day long that he
Might at night more wakeful be.
15. In all the time of his singing and watching
No thief dared risk his power of catching,
So that Schildburg was entirely free
From all nocturnal burglary.

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16. And every citizen, however soundly snoring,
 Woke when Hieronimus his blast was pouring,
 And the sound of his horn and his nightly call
 Were heard throughout the town by all.
17. A wonderful coincidence this must be reckoned
 With Frau Jobs's dream (in chapter second,) .
 And all turns out, to a hair, for us
 In the case of the watch Hieronimus.
18. And that which Urgalindina stated,
 When about the boy's future interrogated,
 On the ground of chiromantic art,
 Was verified now in every part.
19. Now that the things were fulfilled completely,
 The explanation could be made very neatly,
 As with prophecies is always the case;
 They're mysteries till the event takes place.
20. Meantime Frau Schnepferle's talk (remember)
 When Frau Jobs was keeping child-chamber,
 (As may be read in chapter 3)
 Has not as yet been fulfilled, you see.
21. And, from our present information,
 We should say that Frau Schnepferle's reputation
 In the matter of physiognomy
 Must suffer very considerably.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

*How Hieronimus received a visit from friend Death,
who took him to his rest. A chapter which would do
for a funeral sermon.*



THERE'S a sensible saying which, for ages,
As is very well known to all of us fages,
Through learned books has run its round,
(In the old church-father Horace 'tis found :)

2. *As well against the palace portals,
As against the doors of the poorest mortals,
Friend Death, who is everywhere well-known,
Knocks with his old dry knuckle-bone.*
3. That is, when popularly translated,
All that lives to die is fated,
As well the monarch as the boor,
As well the rich man as the poor.
4. Inasmuch as friend Death makes not the smallest
Distinction between the lowest and tallest,
But cuts down all both low and high,
With the strictest impartiality.
5. And, as he ever flyly watches,
The cavalier and the clown he catches,
The beggar and also the great Sultan,
The tailor and also the Tartar Khan.
6. And with his scythe his rounds he goeth
And honorables and lackeys moweth,
The herdsmaid and the titled dame,
Without distinction of place or name.
7. He listens to no compromises;
Both crowns and bag-wigs he despises,
Doctor's hats and stag's horns
And whatever else men's heads adorns.
8. A thousand things he has command of,
By which he us can make an end of,
And now the dagger, and now the pest,
And now a grape-stone, gives us rest.

9. A sickness now and now a panic,
And now a mistaken dose of arsenic,
Poison or pleasure or very spite,
Or love or grief or a mad dog's bite.
10. Now a law-suit and now a splinter,
Now a bad woman and now a bad winter,
Now a noose or other snare,
Of which may Heaven help us beware.
11. Against his darts, when they assail us,
No d'Arçon's floating batteries 'll avail us,
Friend Death, the ravenous, is not scared
By cannon or fortrefs, shield or sword.
12. The commandant of the Seven Towers,
The grand vizier in his harem's bowers,
As well as Diogenes in his tub,
All—all are swallowed by him for grub.
13. So is it as far as memory reaches,
As far as ancient history teaches ;
Jacob Böhme and Aristotlés,
Klaus Narre and Demosthenes ;
14. Misshapen Esop his fables tellin',
And the Grecian beauty, world-famed Helen,
Unhappy Job and King Solomon,
Gave up the ghost and now are gone.
15. Emperor Max and Jobs the Senator
Virgil and Hans Sachs my ancestor,
Goliath great and David small,
Early or late, they perished all.

16. Nicholas Klimm and Marcus Aurelius,
Cato and Eulenspiegelius,
Ritter Samson and old Don
Quixote, alas, they are dead and gone.
17. Kartouche and King Alexander together,
As like each other as birds of a feather,
Bramarbas the hero and Hannibal,
Met the common destiny all.
18. Great Augustus, also Poland's
Hero and Charles XII., nolens volens,
As well as the Persian Shah Kulikan
And Czar Peter, that famous man ;
19. Item, Xerxes, with his host so enormous,
Potiphar, of whom the scriptures inform us,
And Polyphemus, the one-eyed,
And old Methusalem have died.
20. All—all—to the grave they had to carry,
Calvin and Father Santa Clara,
Likewise the Patriarch Abraham
And also Erasmus of Rotterdam.
21. Müller Arnold, too, and the Russian
Imperial Dynasty and the Prussian
Lawyers, and April, well known,
Who fell down stairs at Ratisbon.
22. All—all—have sunk beneath his fickle,
Hippocrates Magnus and Schuppachs Michel,
Galenus and Doctor Menadie,
With the Salernian Academy ;

23. Not one of them found time for fleein',
Not Nostradamus nor superintendent Ziehen :
With doctör Fauft, dreamer Swedenburg, too,
He made a clean sweep and went through.
24. Orpheus, the great musician,
Molière, the comedian of the Parisian nation,
And the famous painter Apellés,
Friend Death has swept away all these.
25. The long-eared Midas, (all children know it,)
Homerus, the old blind beggar-poet,
Vestris the dancer and brave Tamerlane,
Struggled with the destroyer in vain.
26. Ah yes, dear reader! with terrible grip he
Seized and devoured Penelope, Xanthippe,
Judith, Dido, Lucretia,
And the queen from far Arabia.
27. Cynic Timon, Democritus the laughing phyician,
Juggler Schröpfer and Simon the magician,
Socrates and young Werther, the one
A wise man, t'other a simpleton.
28. Bucephalus and Rossinante
And Abulabas the Elephant, he,
With the horse Bayard and Balaam's ass,
Took for a morning meal like grass.
29. Summa Summarum, the long and the short is,
That in none of the chronicles do we find notice,
That friend Death has ever any one passed
Without coming back for him at last.

30. And what he has not eaten already
 He will not fail to remember when he's ready :
 Alas ! dear reader, also thee,
 And, what is worst of all, even me !
31. From the common lot (we've now to mention,)
 Hieronimus, the watchman, found no exemption,
 Him, too, friend Death removed from the stage,
 When forty years and three weeks of age.
32. He caught an inflammatory fever
 From which he might have recovered, however,
 If they had only let nature
 That best of nurses, work his cure.
33. But a doctor who in curing was mighty,
 With a powerful dose of Elixir Vitæ,
 In the very best method carried him fast
 To the place where we all must go at last.
34. And now when to the grave they bore him,
 The Schildeburgers did loudly deplore him,
 For there had not, in many a century,
 Been known such a famous night watchman as he.

NOTE.

One is reminded by this chapter of "Father Mulvaney's Sermon" in Mrs. Hall's *Lights and Shadows of Irish Life*: "Now you see that the great min of *ould* times are all dead ! not a mortal fowl of them all alive."

"There was Julius Cafar and twelve of them there was—*mortus est*—he's dead !"

“ There was the great Cleopatra, an Egyptian, and a great warrior ; he used to drink *purls* for *wather*—*mortus est* ! he’s dead too ! There was Marc Anthony, a grate frind and coajuthor of Cleopatra’s, he had a grate turn for boating and the like—*mortus est*—he’s dead too ! There was Charley-mange, a grate Frinch man of larning and tongues, and with all his larning—*mortus est*—he’s dead too ! There was the grate Alexandre the ginerall of the whole wide world—*mortus est*—he’s dead too ! . . . There was the grate Cicero, a mighty fine pracher like myself—*mortus est*—he’s dead too ! ”

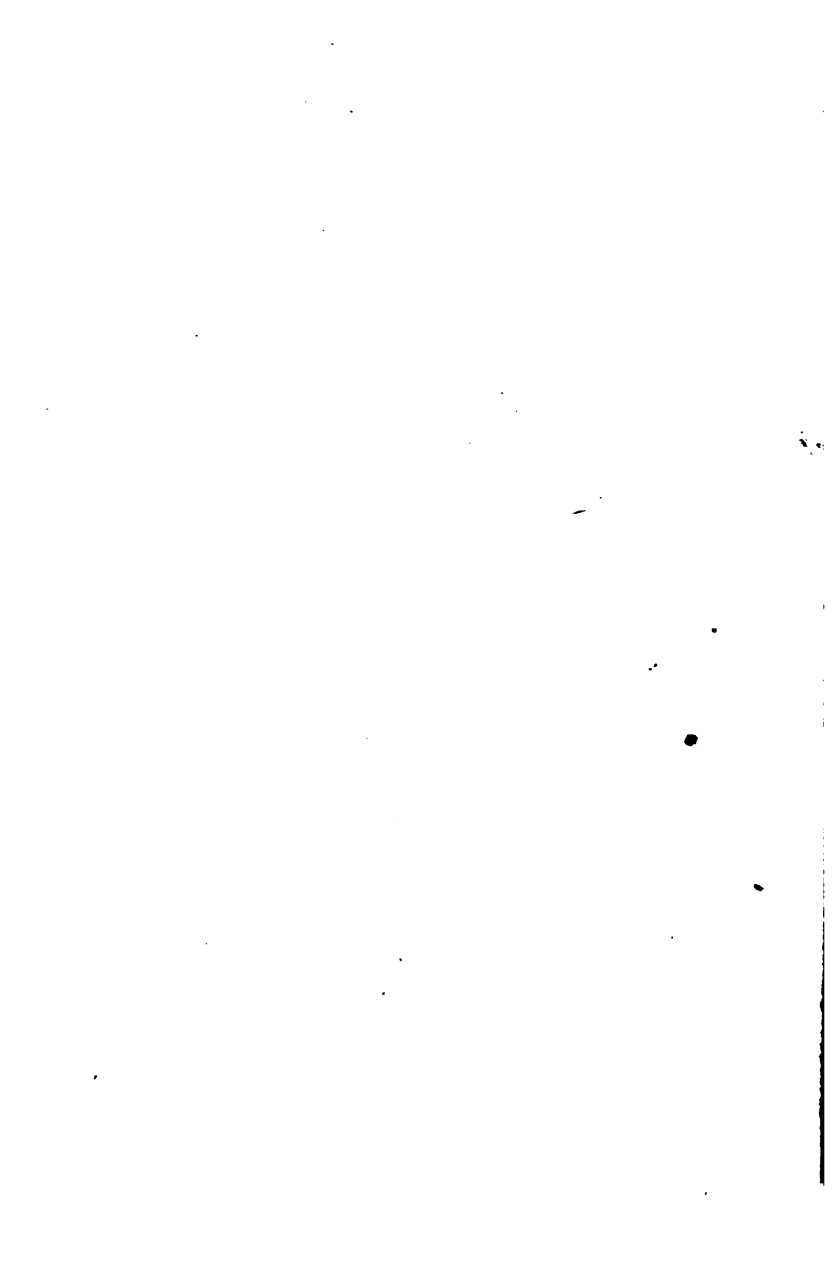
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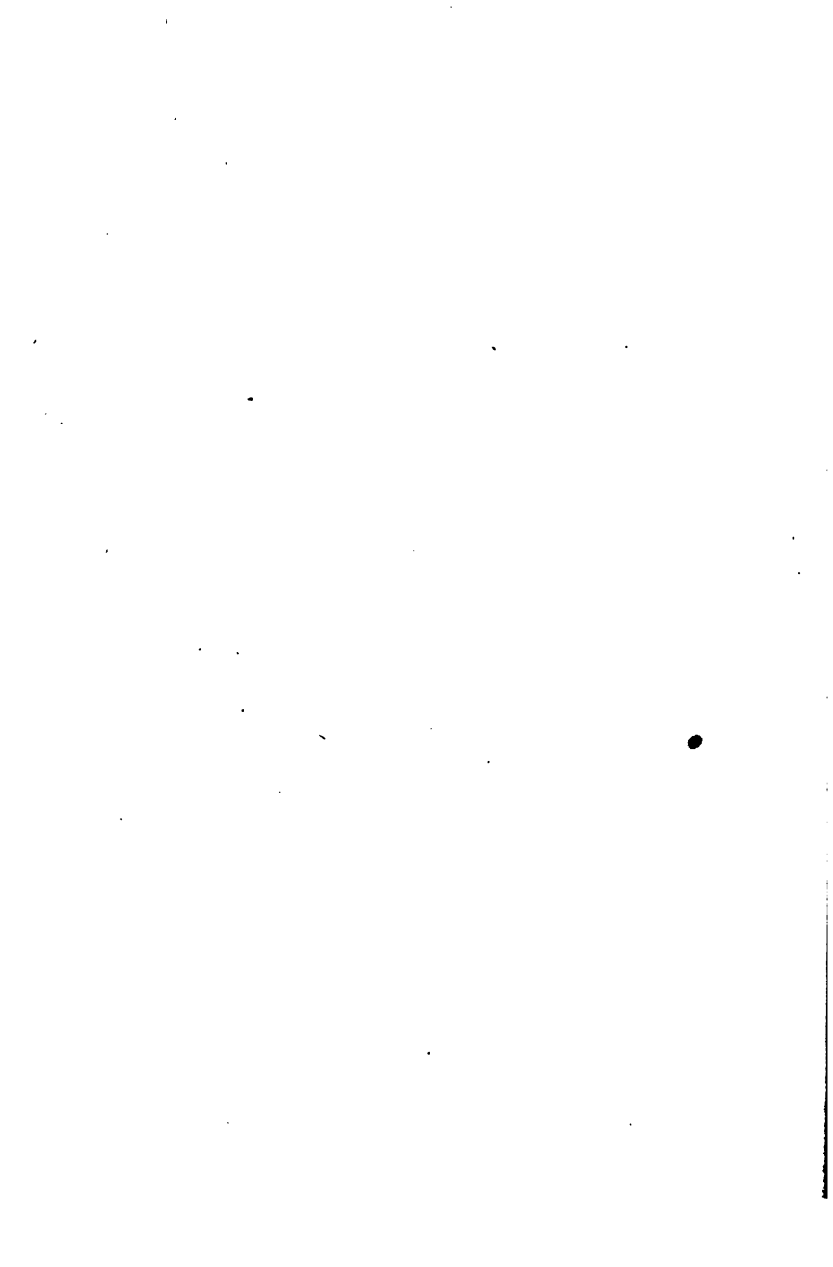








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